■ Entertainment / A2-4

Rufa Mae Quinto defines 'short shorts'; censors irked

■ World / A9

Hunt widens for bombers amid fear in Birmingham

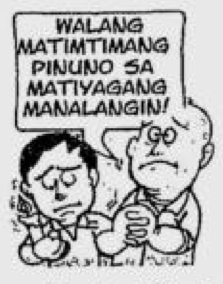
■ Sports / A25

La Salle Archers whip Ateneo Eagles in UAAP caging

■ Entertainment / A2-1

Aleck Bovick: I am not sleeping with my producer

'Light candle at Edsa' to enlighten Gloria


WALANG MATIMTIMANG PINUNO SA MATIYAGANG MANALANGIN!
GO

By Luige A. del Puerto

IF PROTESTS in the streets and calls from influential groups for President Macapagal-Arroyo to resign have fallen on deaf ears, perhaps prayers,

PROTESTERS/ A8

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Monday, July 11, 2005 ★★ 72 pages / 8 sections / Vol. 20 / No. 213 P18

website: www.inq7.net

Inquirer apologizes for lapse in grammar

THE INQUIRER apologizes for the ungrammatical banner headline—"FVR factor makes GMA hangs tough"—that appeared in a later edition of yesterday's issue. The front-page banner headline should have read, "FVR factor makes GMA hang tough." The banner headline of the first edition was "FVR factor is why GMA hangs tough."

CBCP shuns GMA-quit call

But says President should not simply dismiss such demand

ARCHBISHOP Fernando Capalla (fourth, from left, at head table) reads the official stand of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines on the country's political crisis at the end of a four-day meeting at the Pope Pius Center in Manila. JESS YUSON

By Christian V. Esguerra

ROMAN CATHOLIC bishops, moving to ease the worst political crisis hounding President Macapagal-Arroyo, yesterday refused to join a mounting clamor for her resignation amid allegations she stole last year's election but advised her not to dismiss such a call.

"We do not demand her resignation," the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) said in a long-awaited statement issued at the close of a two-day annual meeting.

"Yet neither do we encourage her simply to dismiss such a call from others. For we recognize that nonviolent appeals for her resignation, the demand for a Truth Commission and the filing of an impeachment case are not against the Gospel," it said.

The bishops appealed to Ms Arroyo "to discern deeply to what extent she might have contributed to the erosion of effective governance and whether the erosion is so severe as to be irreversible."

Outgoing CBCP president Fernando Capalla, surrounded by white-robed prelates at the Pope Pius Center in Manila, read in a nationally televised news conference the official Church stand on the controversy that has engulfed the Arroyo presidency since a wiretapping scandal broke out

CBCP/ A22

Bishops' decision enhances chances of impeachment option

By Amando Doronila

ANALYSIS

THE DECISION of the Roman Catholic bishops who stopped short of calling on President Macapagal-Arroyo to resign has halted the momentum of the clamor for her to step down.

After the erosion of her support in key segments of the business community and part of the Cabinet, the Arroyo administration is perched on the legs of two strategic institutions—the military, which has declared neutrality, and the Church.

The decision of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines has in effect delayed the moment of truth for the Arroyo administration and the survival of the constitutional system. It has made the Church increasingly pivotal in diverting the crisis into other constitutional avenues, particularly the impeachment process.

The bishops have given the President more time to rally the support of her allies who have not yet jumped into the resignation bandwagon following the defection of 10 Cabinet members on Friday. Later that day, former President Corazon Aquino also called on Ms Arroyo to make the "supreme sacrifice," saying that after the resignation of

BISHOPS'/ A22

FVR resents being called kingmaker

By Nikko Dizon

AS A FORMER President, Fidel V. Ramos still recognizes his residual influence but he resents being called a "kingmaker."

He also dismisses, at least for now, suggestions that he might even be the nation's first prime minister in the event the country adopts the parliamentary system.

"The man behind the throne is the kind of a role that some shadowy characters like to play. I'm not like that," Ramos said yesterday during a press conference at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Centennial Terminal before leaving for Bangkok.

Ramos, the chair emeritus of the ruling party Lakas, made a timely appearance at Malacañang and announced his unwavering support of President Macapagal-Arroyo amid a snowballing call for her resignation in the wake of accusations she cheated in last year's elections.

That move saved the Arroyo presidency, according to party stalwarts.

The former general skirted a question on the Ramos factor in the survival of Ms Arroyo as her key economic allies in Cabi-

FVR/ A6

EMBATTLED President Macapagal-Arroyo enjoys a stroll by Manila Bay with her children Luli and Dato, daughter-in-law Kakai and grandchild Evie. RYAN LIM

GMA thanks bishops for guidance, wisdom

By Christine O. Avendaño

AN ELATED President Macapagal-Arroyo made the Sign of the Cross a few seconds after learning the good news from Catholic bishops, according to Government Media Secretary Cerge Remonde.

The President thanked the bishops for their statement.

"I am deeply grateful to the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines for its statement of guidance and wisdom," she said in a radio address. "I appreciate their collective voice of moderation and temperance at this time of national soul searching."

She said she would read "every line and everything between the lines of the bishops' statement in an effort to bring greater moral enrichment to a nation impoverished, both in its material and spiritual foundations."

"I shall continue to pray with the Filipino people for true redemption from corruption and evil," she said.

Saying she was searching "deeply" for moral discernment, the President quoted a passage in the Bible to express her thoughts.

"The Second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians rings true for me, 'I cannot boast about myself except about my weaknesses,'" Ms Arroyo said.

"But I know in faith, that in my

GMA / A22

E-VAT rumor was tipping point, says Drilon

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

DEFENDING his decision to part ways with President Macapagal-Arroyo, Senate President Franklin Drilon yesterday said his conscience would not let him work with someone who would sacrifice the nation's welfare to ensure her own political survival.

Drilon, in particular, cited said Ms Arroyo's alleged role in the Supreme Court's order stopping the implementation of the expanded value-added tax (e-VAT)—her most important economic reform measure—at the height of calls for her to resign over allegations of involvement in 2004 election fraud.

He said this was also the reason that 10 Cabinet officials resigned Friday.

Drilon said the "rumor" that Ms Arroyo

E-VAT RUMOR/ A6

Aides say GMA no lame duck

By Christine O. Avendaño and TJ Burgonio

LAME-DUCK President she is not after the clamor for her ouster reached a crescendo on Friday, according to top Cabinet officials. But some senators say President Macapagal-Arroyo should brace for a bigger political storm.

"What doesn't kill you will make you stronger," Rigoberto Tiglao, head of the Presidential

AIDES/ A6

Expletives flew as Cabinet factions bickered

By Tony S. Bergonia

AS CRISIS gripped President Macapagal-Arroyo's administration, debates among her advisers had become so bitter that one official walked out while others uttered expletives like "bullshit," officials said.

They said the "rebels" within the Cabinet who resigned last week and called on Ms Arroyo to step down were the driving force behind her decision to issue a public apology at the height of the so-called "Garci tape" controversy.

Before Ms Arroyo accepted their recommendation for her to apologize for her "lapse in judgment," her official family had been deeply and bitterly divided over one key element in the scandal: What to do with her husband and son in the face of accusations that they received "jueteng" payola.

At one point, according to Environment Secretary Michael Defensor, the heated debate escalated to hostility and some Cabinet men uttered words like "bullshit" during one of a series of meetings called to find ways to deal with the crisis.

EXPLETIVES/ A8

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of Luzon will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with rainshowers and thunderstorms mostly in the afternoon or evening.
SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

COMPILED BY: ERIKA A. SARMIENTO, PDI RESEARCH/07/11/05

Clamor for GMA ouster spreading

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr., *PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*
and Nestor Burgos Jr., *PDI Visayas Bureau*

NOW, it's not only 'imperial' Manila that is demanding the resignation of embattled President Macapagal-Arroyo.

The mounting clamor for her to step down has spread to the provinces.

In Southern Tagalog, militant workers staged a protest caravan in several towns in Laguna yesterday to reiterate their "resign all" call.

Ronnie Luna, chair of the Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino-Southern Tagalog, said the caravan composed of close to 50 motorcycles and 20 cars left the San Pedro boundary at around 9 a.m. and passed through Biñan, Sta. Rosa City, Cabuyao, Calamba City, Los Baños and Bay and ended in Calauan in the afternoon.

"We also conducted whistle-stop protest rallies in every town. The people along the route of the caravan were enthusiastic. They even provided us with water and food. More vehicles also joined us along the route," Luna claimed. He said they decided to stage the protest caravan to belie the claim of Malacañang that protest actions against President Arroyo were concentrated only in Metro Manila and not in the provinces.

Luna said they were calling for the resignation of the entire administration, starting with President Arroyo and Vice President Noli de Castro down to all the constitutional successors to pave the way for a transitional revolutionary government.

Luna said workers from the factories of Peter and Paul and DGR Garments, together with tricycle drivers and urban poor groups, will also hold a protest rally in Candelaria, Quezon today.

In Iloilo City, where Ms Arroyo won over the late opposition standard-bearer Fernando Poe, Jr. by a big margin, around 300 protesters led by the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) held protest actions for the second straight day calling on the President to resign.

The protesters started massing up in front of the Iloilo provincial capitol on Friday, hours after a group of Arroyo's Cabinet officials resigned and called for her resignation.

The protesters, who have camped out at the capitol ground, included government employees, farmers and students from the University of the Philippines in Miag-ao town, 40 km south of this city.

Aurelio Bosque, Bayan-Panay chair, said they would continue holding protest actions in preparation for big nationwide rallies next week to step up pressure for the President to resign.

But local executives in Cagayan Valley resent the protests being staged in Metro Manila against the President and have vowed to stop the delivery of agriculture produce from the region to the metropolis to send a "strong message" to the President's critics in the capital.

In a meeting on Sunday, the political allies of Ms Arroyo in the region agreed that the proposed food embargo would be a "show of force" from the provinces supporting Ms Arroyo.

The officials, who met at the house of former Justice Secretary Silvestre Bello III in Barangay Baligatan here, said rice and corn produced in Cagayan Valley are supplied to many areas in Luzon, especially in Metro Manila.

"This is to send a strong message to the people creating trouble that if they will not stop, we will do that alternative (food blockade). We can do it. People in Metro Manila will suffer," Isabela Rep. Edwin Uy said.

In Cebu City, 13 business leaders in the Visayas rallied behind the beleaguered President and hit at groups they said were trying to bully her into resigning from office.

In a statement, the business leaders said they "condemn the hypocritical and obnoxious attempts to bully President Macapagal-Arroyo into resigning."

"We do not support a quick-fix-band-aid solution that will undermine the constitution," the statement said.

The Makati Business Club (MBC) and Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines had joined calls for the President's resignation. *With reports from Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau, Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau*

GLORIA, WALANG DELIKADEZA
OUST GLORIA NOW!
Filipino Migrant Workers Union
RESIGN!

ABOUT 30 people chanting "Oust, Oust GMA," referring to President Macapagal-Arroyo's initials, stage a rally in a downtown area in Hong Kong where fellow Filipino workers typically gather on Sunday, their day off.
AP

Opposition sets 'biggest rally'

By Tarra V. Quismundo
and Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

ONCE AGAIN, protesters will converge in Makati's business district to pressure President Macapagal-Arroyo to step down in what could be the biggest anti-Arroyo rally to date.

On Wednesday, militants and opposition groups will again take over the busy intersection of Paseo de Roxas and Ayala Avenue in the central business district to orchestrate louder calls for Ms Arroyo to resign.

"Our ambition is to hold the biggest rally in Makati... hopefully, we can organize at least 50,000 people...that's a conservative estimate," said Renato Reyes, Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) Secretary General.

Reyes said unified militant groups, the United Opposition (UNO), and supporters of deposed President Joseph Estrada and the late actor Fernando Poe Jr., who lost his presidential bid to Arroyo in the May 2004 national elections, would gather anew at the Ninoy Aquino monument for a "mammoth rally" on Wednesday afternoon.

Crowds gathered in Makati on July 1 and July 8 demanding for the President's resignation. This came after Ms Arroyo admitted on national TV about her "lapse in judgement" when she spoke to an election official in a purported attempt to rig results in the May elections.

Wednesday's gathering is expected "to be bigger than the previous ones. We hope to draw in anti-Arroyo forces from the middle-class sector," said Reyes.

Speaking for the UNO, San Juan mayor JV Ejercito, in a phone interview, said: "The rallies will not stop until (Ms Arroyo) vacates her office."

He added that UNO would also join the big rally in Makati being planned by the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan on Wednesday.

"The sooner (Ms Arroyo) leaves, the better for the country. The longer she stays, the deeper we sink with her," Ejercito said.

He said the UNO, which appointed jailed former president Joseph Estrada as chair emeritus, had also received numerous invitations to join protest actions to oust Ms Arroyo.

Asked if Susan Roces, widow of the late movie king Fernando Poe Jr., would be joining the protests, Ejercito said "we will see."

In her angry remarks against the President, Roces maintained her husband was cheated in the last presidential elections.

Cory, MBC urged to rethink stand

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

FORMER President Corazon Aquino and the Makati Business Club (MBC), one of the country's most influential business organization, might have to "rethink" their stand urging President Macapagal-Arroyo to quit after the Catholic hierarchy declined to demand her resignation.

"I'm a member of the (MBC) board of trustees, and I believe it is only appropriate that we rethink our position in light of the CBCP (Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines) preference for her to stay on and answer all the charges," said Raul T. Concepcion in an interview with the INQUIRER.

"I think that the message of the CBCP is clear—we have to get on a fresh start and unite together for the sake of the country. We have to be magnanimous about this," said businessman Raul T. Concepcion.

The MBC, along with the Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines and civil society groups, urged the President to relinquish her position for the sake of national unity and for the sake of moving forward" because her "ability to manage the affairs of state has been seriously impaired."

The MBC's position echoed the stand taken by the breakaway group of Cabinet officials led by Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima who called on the President to give her post to Vice President Noli de Castro.

Concepcion also urged former President Corazon Aquino to "understand" what the bishops are "telling our leaders to stop creating divisions in the country."

"I think Cory should reconsider her stand and support the Truth Commission," Concepcion said.

For the President, Concepcion said the CBCP's stand should force her to "examine her conscience very clearly."

Concepcion, chair of the Consumer and Oil Price Watch, said the first order of business for the President was to establish a Truth Commission similar to the Feliciano Commission.

"The search for the truth must come from the Commission. The people should wait for the results that should be done as soon as possible given the divisiveness in our society but without compromising the thoroughness required," Concepcion said.

"I believe that the next move is now with the President and she has a lot of things to prove to us not only on the innocence of her family from jueteng charges and that she did not cheat in last year's elections but also that she could lead this country to political unity and economic prosperity," Concepcion said.

Concepcion also urged the President to reach out to all political parties and the resigned Cabinet members to start the healing process.

His twin, Namfrel chair Jose Concepcion, concurred that everybody, including Aquino, should "discern and follow" what the CBCP has declared.

GMA to bare stance on Cha-cha at Sona

By Christine O. Avendaño

MALACAÑANG yesterday said President Macapagal-Arroyo was expected to give her stand on the proposal to change the form of government when she makes her annual State of the Nation Address (Sona) before Congress on July 25.

"I believe there is a big possibility that President Arroyo will say something on the calls that we change the form of government," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said yesterday when asked what her Sona would contain.

On previous occasions, Ms Arroyo had said that Charter changes were among the reforms she would announce in her Sona in Congress.

The President mentioned this again on July 7, as well as her bid to restructure the Cabinet "because our country is hungry for a resolution to political uncertainties."

The Chief Executive said she intended to work with lawmakers and civil groups who believe Charter changes are needed to confront basic issues such as federalism, among others.

In an interview with RMN radio, Bunye said the bid to address changes in the 1987 Constitution was part of the President's medium-term plan and something that she had been talking about when she campaigned last year during the presidential elections.

Last Friday, at the height of the political crisis hounding the present administration, former President Fidel Ramos came out to support Ms Arroyo, a move said to have saved her government from collapsing.

Palace officials denied that the former president had asked favors from Ms Arroyo in exchange for Ramos' support.

But a lawmaker belonging to Ramos' party said the former president would most likely have his way.

Not all Magic Sings are the same...
iba talaga ang
WOW! MAGIC SING™ PREMIUM
WOW talaga!

NEW! Mabuhay! 2005 Edition
NEW! Fiesta 2005 EDITION

MODELS	Mabuhay! ver. 8.3.32 Fiesta ver. 6.2.21	BRAND X VERSION 8.0 VERSION 6.0
Manufactured by	Entertech Co. Ltd. Korea	
Specifications	EXACTLY THE SAME	
Standard Accessories	EXACTLY THE SAME	
Features & Functions	EXACTLY THE SAME	
Number of built-in-songs	799	792
Bonus Songs and Sing through the Philippines VCD	FREE! 7 Bonus songs! Featuring: Biyahe Tayo!, I Love Philippines, Biyahe Na!, Pilipino sa Turismo ay Aktibo, and many more!	none
Box Color	Original Blue (Mabuhay Edition) & Orange (Fiesta Edition) Color & Theme	Not Original
Picture Background	100% WOW Philippines	International
WOW Philippines Picture Guide	FREE!	none
Tourism Promotion Partners	BIYAHE Tayo! I ♥ PHILIPPINES	Unknown
On-Screen Song Arrangement	Organized by artist	Random
Product Manual	User-friendly, Illustrated Manual	Korean Composed Manual
Download Manager (for Mabuhay Edition only)	CD Supplied by Entertech Co., Ltd Updated versions available @ www.magicsing.com/download & www.wowmagicsing.com/download	Supplied with product in home-burned CD
Video Extension Cable	FREE!	none
Mic Stand	with WOW logo	Standard
Mascot	Philippine Tarsier	none
Leatherette Mic Jacket	none	FREE

• Information contained are accurate as of June 30, 2005.

Available Nationwide At:
odyssey MUSIC & VIDEO, Automatic CENTRE, AstroVision, ABENSON, TOWER RECORDS, Square MART, ABENSON, Home & Office Center, ASTROPLUS, WESTERN, Avid BRANDS!, ABENSON, SANSONIC MARKETING, PACIFIC ELECTRONICS, OHM'S TRADER, Hirosé ELECTRONICS, SOLID ELECTRONICS, IGEN•PORTAL, The Listening Room, SIGHTS & SOUNDS Audio / Video, HARDWARE EXCHANGE, PUREGOLD PRICE CLUB, INC., ACE-ESBA CORPORATION, CSI CITY SUPERMARKET INCORPORATED, TIONGSAN HARRISON, GUANZON, SOLAR SALES CENTER, GOLDEN BELL, MA-AN Video • Sounds, Mindanao Solidmark, Inc., pcbs

Exclusively Distributed by ... G2K Corporation

RAM threatens to intervene to end impasse

By Luige A. del Puerto

THE REBOLUSYONARYONG Alyansang Makabansa yesterday threatened "to move in to save the country" if there is an attempt to install a new leadership through unconstitutional means.

Asked if that would include the taking up of arms, retired Navy Capt. Prospero Maligalig, the RAM spokesperson, said "yes."

"This is not a threat. We are just telling the politicians to get their acts together, to (observe) due process of law, to find out if Gloria (Arroyo) is guilty (of rigging the elections), then allow resignation or impeachment (to take place)," he said.

If not, he said, the RAM will intervene.

Maligalig said the constitutional processes include resignation and impeachment, and the constitutional line of succession. "If it is beyond constitutionally-mandated processes, we will move," he warned.

"If the Constitution would not be followed, there could be groups that might run wild in the streets. We'll move if that happens to save the republic," he said.

RAM would not allow any attempt to establish a civilian-military junta or a transitional government, according to Maligalig.

In a statement, RAM said it will not allow the country to be drawn into a bloody squabble of politicians of all ilks, "who like packs of wolves would tear apart the carcass of our body politic."

Such a scenario "would leave the nation and the broad masses of people in the same state of poverty, ignorance and hopelessness," it said.

RAM called on the national leadership "to exercise the highest form of patriotism and personal discernment ... to allow the constitutionally mandated processes to be placed into effect," adding it "is committed to thwart any move to the contrary."

If forced to "intervene," Maligalig said RAM could do two things—to return the country to "the old constitutional order," or if the country's woes continues, to "go all the way" with a pure military intervention.

But he said these are extreme scenarios that "we do not want to happen."

"We don't want to do that. (But) if things are out of control—and I don't want to talk of this—(then it shall be) a pure military intervention."

The RAM was blamed for several failed attempts to overthrow former President Corazon Aquino, who came to power after dictator Ferdinand Marcos was ousted in 1986 by an army-backed people power revolt. The group has been dormant since then, with several of its original leaders joining the government.

Maligalig, who is now the president of a state-run corporation, claimed RAM still has a sizable civilian and military membership.

With an AP report

Ditched PAL jet delays flights at Naia

A PHILIPPINE Airlines aircraft got stuck on the Ninoy Aquino International Airport runway late yesterday afternoon, delaying several flights.

The 281 passengers and crew of flight PR 106 bound for Vancouver, Canada had to disembark from the plane, said airport operations chief Octavio Lina.

Lina said the steering of the nose wheel landing gear of the aircraft, an Airbus 340, failed while making the 180-degree turn on the runway, as it prepared for takeoff at 5:30 p.m. yesterday.

According to the Naia flight information service, the incident delayed at least four international flights at the Naia Terminal 1: Cathay Pacific CX 918 for Hong Kong and Singapore Airlines SQ 075 for Singapore; and CX 903 and Lufthansa LH 788 that were scheduled to arrive in Manila from Hong Kong and Frankfurt, Germany, respectively.

PAL flight PR 731 from Bangkok, Thailand and PR 850 from Cebu were diverted to the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport in Clark, Pampanga.

Nikko Dizon

Economists seek GMA's resignation

SAYING the status quo will prolong uncertainty and instability in the country, a group of economists and professionals has urged President Macapagal-Arroyo to voluntarily step down.

"Let it be your legacy, Madam President, that in the end you chose to save the nation rather than your presidency," the group of 29 concerned citizens from the economics and allied professions said.

In a statement, the signatories said they uphold the Constitution, which designates the vice president as the successor, in the event that Ms Arroyo relinquishes power.

Among the signatories are Michael Alba, Dean, College of Business and Economics, De La Salle University; Fernando Aldaba, economics department, Ateneo de Manila University; Carlito T. Añonuevo, president of the Action for Economic Reforms (AER); Cielito Habito, economics department, Ateneo de Manila University; and Filomeno S. Sta. Ana III, coordinator of AER.

They noted that the taped conversations between the President and Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano that indicated systematic rigging of the 2004 elections, and the President's apology for a "lapse in judgment" in calling an unnamed election official during the election period had "tarnished her trustworthiness and credibility, and compromised her moral authority to govern."

"Only a leader occupying the moral high ground can convince the citizens to accept hard, painful economic reforms to arrest the fiscal crisis. It will be ironic and sad for the President, a full fledged economist to fail to realize this," the group said.

It said the continued stay in office of Ms Arroyo "will only drag down the nation into an economic quagmire of fiscal insolvency, poor consumer and investor confidence, accelerating inflation, and high unemployment and poverty."

The group said a change of leadership must go hand in hand with a thorough, deep restructuring and reform of institutions, particularly the Commission on Elections.

TILE SALE

EUROTILES
SUPERIOR CERAMIC TILES
styled to last
Awardee Most Outstanding Ceramic Tiles 2005
No. 1 Ceramic Tile Manufacturer 2004-2005
Philippine Builders Excellence Awards
No. 1 Ceramic Tiles National Shopper's Choice Annual Awards
2004

Hurry! July 8 to 31, 2005 Only!

Classification	Size	AS LOW AS
WALL TILES	20 cm x 20 cm (8" x 8")	P8.50/pc.
FLOOR TILES	20 cm x 20 cm (8" x 8")	P9.00/pc.

Federal HARDWARE BUILDERS CENTER

CERAMIC PLAZA

•MAKATI Tel. 893-1654 • 893-1675 E.RODRIGUEZ Tel. 732-1906 •CUBAO Tel. 421-9250 •COMMONWEALTH Tel. 936-7023 •TAYTAY Tels. 284-2206 • 665-3442 •CAINTA Tel. 678-1638 •SUCAT Tel. 788-0773 ALABANG TOWN CENTER Tel. 807-6508 •BACOOR, CAVITE Tel. (046) 870-2598 IMUS, CAVITE Tel. (046) 875-4840 DASMARIÑAS Tel. (046) 416-3743 MAKILING, CALAMBA Tel. (049) 245-6667 •BIÑAN Tel. (049) 839-2069 •BOCAUE Tel. (044) 692-6719 •ANGELES Tel. (045) 888-4186 MABALACAT Tel. (045) 893-3872 TARLAC (045) 611-0326

ALSO AVAILABLE AT ALL CERAMIC PLAZA BRANCHES

•OPEN MONDAYS TO SUNDAYS 8:30AM TO 7:30PM

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1720 Series of 2005

Build more for less.

Trim "Papaya" Thighs Now

The newest Sonic Energy Fat Reducer quickly breaks down hard, trapped thigh-fat for a visibly slimmer and sexier form. No straining exercises and no surgery. Start losing your heavy papaya thighs today with this special promo offer. Call Marie France now.

CALL 894-BODY (2639)

Enroll now and get 3 FREE SONIC ENERGY FAT REDUCER TREATMENTS from July 11-16, 2005

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4003, Series of 2005

marie france

MAKATI ORTIGAS TOMAS MORATO BINONDO ALABANG SHAW CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA • TEL: 961-2981 CEBU • TEL: 233-7637

P88k down for Ford Lynx
Ford
ALL-AMERICAN FREEDOM FEST
JULY 1-31, 2005

See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCII Permit No. 3955, Series of 2005.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Realignment of forces at the Senate seen

By TJ Burgonio

SENATE President Franklin Drilon's sudden withdrawal of support for President Macapagal-Arroyo has weakened his hold on the leadership of the upper chamber, an administration lawmaker said yesterday.

Drilon, president of the Liberal Party, along with party stalwarts Senate Majority Leader Francis Pangilinan and Senators Rodolfo Biazon and Manuel Roxas II on Friday broke ties with the President and asked her to step down to end the political crisis.

"The present leadership is less tenuous [because of what happened]," Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr., a member of the ruling Lakas-CMD party, said in a phone interview, adding LP's move could lead to a break up of the administration coalition.

"It seems that the majority, because of the move of the Senate President, has become less tenuous," he said.

Magsaysay said that the withdrawal of support by the four LP senators has triggered a "realignment of alliances" among senators based on whether they support the constitutional process to address the crisis or want Ms Arroyo to resign.

"There's now some sort of a realignment of alliances based on whether one senator is for the rule of law, that is impeachment, or for the resignation of the president," he said.

When sought for comment, Biazon said: "That's difficult to speculate on." He, however, maintained that the move has not so far resulted into a split "within the Senate contingent."

Another administration senator, who asked not to be named, refused to comment on the fate of the majority, but stressed that the LP move did not spell "the end of the world" for the administration bloc.

In a radio interview, Sen. Panfilo Lacson indicated that Drilon could still keep the Senate presidency if he was open to the idea of joining forces with the minority bloc, led by Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr.

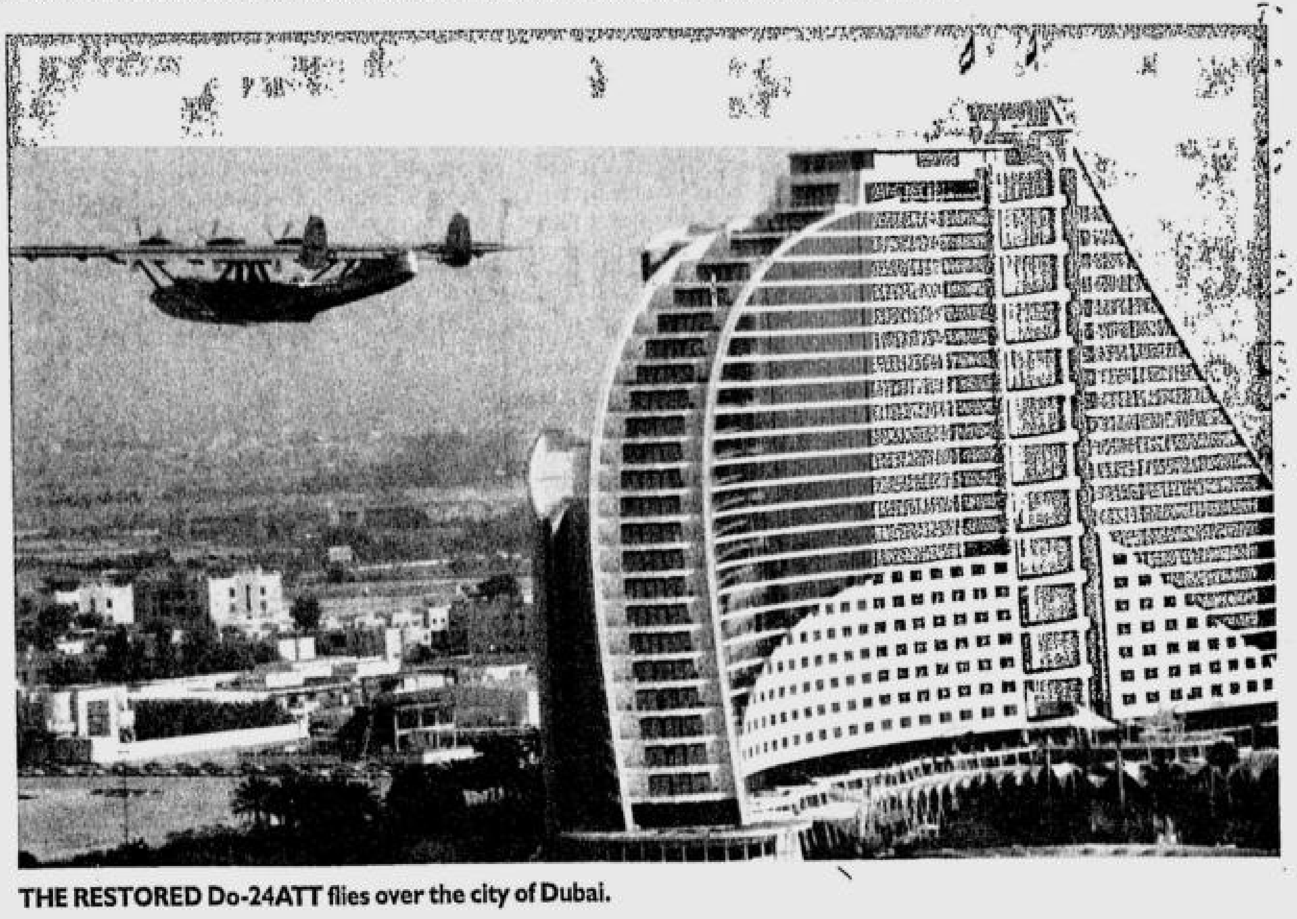
"If he plays his cards right, he'll stay in his position," he said in an interview over Radio Mindanao Network, stressing that at least 13 votes were needed to unseat Drilon.

So far, only the four LP senators called on the President to step down.

Magsaysay, Senators Joker Arroyo, Manuel Villar Jr. and Richard Gordon have maintained that the filing of an impeachment complaint was the constitutional approach to the crisis.

The other administration senators were Pia Cayetano, Juan Flavier and Miriam Defensor-Santiago, Lito Lapid, Ralph Recto, and Ramon "Bong" Revilla Jr.

"I leave my fate and will submit to the will of the majority. I am ready to accept the consequences of the party decision," Pangilinan said.



THE RESTORED Do-24ATT flies over the city of Dubai.

German pilot, Pinoy crew resume second leg of fundraising flight

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—The country's political horizon may be turbulent, but this did not discourage a German pilot and his Filipino crew to resume the second leg of their voyage around the world raising funds for Filipino children and promoting Philippine tourism.

On Saturday, Capt. Iren Dornier and his team left for New York to begin the second leg of their "Mission: Dream."

The journey's first eight months, completed by South East Asian Airlines (Seair) team in November 2004 and which covered 31 destinations in 19 countries, raised P3.5 million for Filipino children.

The money was donated to the United Nations Children's Fund for their education program and to provide clean water for children in remote areas in the Philippines.

Dornier's team flew on the vintage plane DO24ATT which drew large crowds of aviation fans, ministers, business executives, even royalty to events and gathered support for children and stirred interest in Philippine tourism.

Dornier, Seair co-founder Capt. Nikos Gitsis, international sales manager Shiella Cabi-ao, Salalila and several Filipino volunteers are in Jamestown, New York, preparing the seaplane for the world's biggest aviation event—the Experimental Aircraft Association Air Venture, in Wisconsin which will be held from July 25 to July 31.

By Aug. 27, the restored vintage aircraft will land on New York's Hudson River. Dornier said it was his way of paying tribute to his grandfather who landed his 12-engine DO-X flying boat on the same site 74 years ago.

Grandfather Claudius Dornier's stop at Hudson River was part of his 1929-1931 world tour.

The journey's next stops will be key cities in South America, Africa, South Asia and South East Asia.

Corrections

IN THE July 7 issue, an item in the People, Events & Products section on Page B4—"Children's Hour hosts art exhibit, screening"—misstated the name of a popular painter. The painter's name is Ernie Sta. Ana—not Sta. Maria.

* * *

IN YESTERDAY'S issue, a photo caption on the front page misspelled the name of the head of the Presidential Management Staff. The correct spelling of the Palace official's name is Rigoberto Tiglao—not Tigalo.

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to Gerry Lirio, city editor, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City; fax Nos. 897-4793/94; e-mail addresses: glirio@inquirer.com.ph and daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent, pending the appointment of a new readers' advocate, to Isagani Yambot, publisher, the same address and fax numbers as those of the city editor, and e-mail address: iyambot@inquirer.com.ph.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Monday, July 11, 2005
15th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading:	Ex 1:8-14,22
Gospel:	Matthew 10:34-11:1

Jesus said to his apostles, "Do not think that I have come to establish peace on earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father and daughter against her mother; a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. Each one will have as enemies those of one's own family.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take up his cross and come after me is not worthy of me. One who wants to benefit from his life will lose it; one who loses his life for my sake will find it.

Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes him who sent me. The one who welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive the reward of a prophet; the one who welcomes a just man because he is a just man will receive the reward of a just man. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones, because he is a disciple of mine, I assure you, he will not go unrewarded."

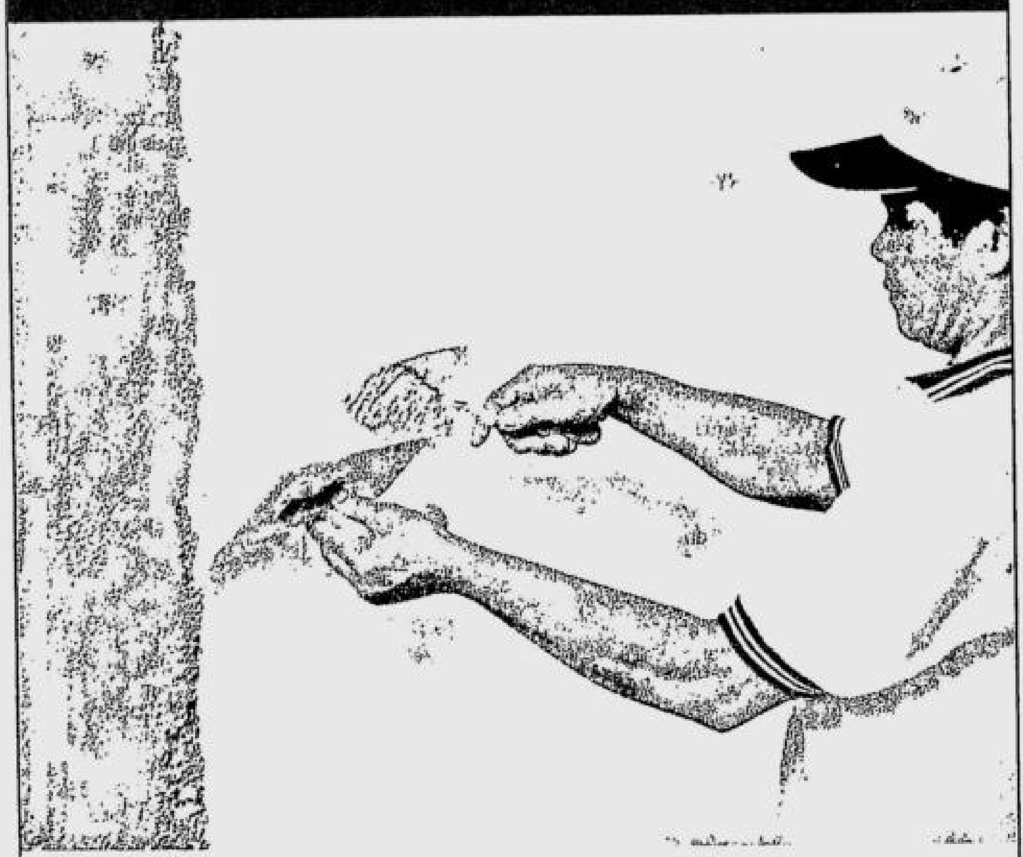
When Jesus had finished giving his twelve disciples these instructions, he went on from there to teach and to proclaim his message in their towns.

Commentary

Jesus' words startle us—do you think I've come to establish peace on the earth—no, I come with a sword. Jesus is not about the peace that reigns superficially in families, nations and groups—his life is about the sword of the Word of God that separates and divides people—into those who believe and are laid bare and those who refuse and resist change and conversion. Families will be torn apart over and divided over Jesus and his Good News. We must choose and stick to those choices in times of losing loved ones, being rejected, welcomed by strangers who take us in, and cared for by those who recognize the goodness we bring in the Gospel and when we are not spoken to by those we love most. And Jesus goes to the town of each of the disciples to preach—at home, where it's the hardest. Are we families of the Word or do we settle for an uneasy, shallow peace like the world says we should?

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.; 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: cci@claret.org; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

WHITE CEMENT WALL FINISH AT P35.00* PER SQM.



With Diamond Masonry White Cement as your final plastering cement, you get incredible savings - as much as 50% on your finishing cost! And a faster finish, too, as the table below shows.

COMPARATIVE WALL FINISH

	Conventional Coated Flat White Wall Finish	DIAMOND MASONRY WHITE CEMENT
CHB Wall	Standard	Standard
Grey Cement Rough	Standard	Standard
Grey Smooth Finished	Standard	2-3 mm white smooth or textured finished
Apply Neutralizer (Lason)	Standard (After 28 days)	N.A.
Apply 1ST Coat (White)	Standard	N.A.
Apply Patching Cmpd.	Standard	N.A.
Apply 2ST Coat (White)	Standard	N.A.
Apply Final Coat	Standard	Optional

* Based on conventional application within Metro Manila only, where the retail cost of a 40 kg. bag is between P350 to P380. One bag with a minimum coverage of 15 sqm to a maximum of 20 sqm, and labor cost computed at 30% of the cost of material. Figures may vary depending on location.

Smart finishing begins with
DIAMOND MASONRY WHITE CEMENT

DIAMOND WHITE MASONRY CEMENT
MADE IN MALAYSIA BY AALBORG WHITE ASIA SDN. BHD.
NET: 40 KG

LIST OF DISTRIBUTORS :

METRO MANILA :
Fil-American Hardware
Cubao, Quezon City 912-5555

Skydragon Construction Products Inc.
Bagong Ilog, Pasig City 910-7122 to 23

CENTRAL LUZON :
NCR Construction Supply
Angeles City Pampanga (045) 322-3178

NORTHERN LUZON :
Vigan Galaxie
Pantay Daya, Vigan City (077) 722-2088
(077) 722-2803

SOUTHERN LUZON :
Stone 2000 Enterprises, Inc.
Biñan, Laguna 825-6483 / 829-5921

VISAYAS & MINDANAO :
Simon Enterprises
Cebu City (032) 255-2020

Vic Enterprises
Cebu City (032) 233-7588

SWEET DEALS FROM SINGAPORE AIRLINES

SINGAPORE+ from US$ 189

KUALA LUMPUR / PENANG* from US$239	BANGKOK* from US$239
SAIGON / HANOI* from US$299	JAKARTA* from US$309
AUSTRALIA** from US$370	BOMBAY* from US$449
EUROPE** from US$789	LOS ANGELES/ SAN FRANCISCO/ VANCOUVER** from US$799
LOS ANGELES** (on Executive Economy Class) from US$1,260	NEW YORK CITY** (on Executive Economy Class) from US$1,370

Experience premium service at great value to your favorite destinations.
To know more about what Singapore Airlines can offer, contact your travel agent or visit www.singaporeair.com/ph.

A great way to fly
SINGAPORE AIRLINES
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

+SINGAPORE: For instant purchases until 22 July 2005. For departures until 31 July 2005. Restricted to SQ73 / SQ75 out of Manila. Minimum 2 adults must travel together. Child discount not applicable. Not eligible for mileage accrual.

* KUALA LUMPUR, PENANG, BANGKOK, SAIGON, HANOI, JAKARTA and BOMBAY: For purchases until 22 July 2005. For departures until 31 July 2005. Restricted to selected flights. Minimum 2 adults must travel together. Discount applies to children below 12 years old. Not eligible for mileage accrual.

** AUSTRALIA, EUROPE, USA & CANADA: For purchases until 31 August 2005. For departures until 30 September 2005. Fares to Australia, Europe and USA are restricted to selected flights. Minimum 2 adults must travel together except for Executive Economy Class fares. Discount applies to children below 12 years old. Australia fares are not eligible for mileage accrual. Europe, USA and Canada fares are eligible for mileage accrual.

All airfares quoted are per person based on Economy Class travel (except those indicated as Executive Economy Class) and exclude taxes, fees and other surcharges. Other terms and conditions apply. For more information, please call your travel agent or SIA Reservations at 756-8888. For departures from Cebu or Davao, please call (032) 232-6211 in Cebu and (082) 224-5608 in Davao.

27 Filipino workers detained in Beirut freed

By Nikko Dizon

TWENTY-SEVEN Filipino workers who were detained for two days by the Lebanese immigration office in Beirut, have been released, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said yesterday.

In a statement, the DFA, however, said that six others remain under the custody of authorities at the Adlieh Retention Center and are undergoing further investigation.

The DFA said Charge d'Affaires Nestor Padalhin of the Philippine Embassy in Beirut continues to work for the release of the remaining Filipino workers still in detention.

Padalhin is also meeting with the Lebanese Foreign Ministry and immigration department to avoid a repeat of the incident, the DFA said.

The Philippine Embassy assisted the Filipino workers prove to the Lebanese immigration officials that they possessed the proper documents that allow them to legally stay in the country.

The embassy also filed a Note Verbale to formally protest the Filipino workers' detention.

The Filipino workers were detained last July 4 following a raid by operatives of the immigration office on the five-story Chahine Building in Antelias, where many Filipinos reside, following reports that it is being used as a prostitution den.

The detained Filipinos denied involvement in the alleged prostitution den. Some of them claimed they worked for diplomats and commercial companies.

Canada issues travel advisory

THE CANADIAN government has warned its nationals to avoid protests and demonstrations in Manila as a result of the recent political developments.

The Canadian travel advisory, posted on the Canadian Foreign Affairs website, reads: "Recent political developments in the Philippines have increased the possibility of protests and demonstrations, particularly in Manila. Canadians are advised to avoid large public gatherings."

The US, however, has not issued a new travel advisory to its nationals in the Philippines despite the ongoing political turmoil.

US charge d'affaires Joseph Mussomeli even expressed belief that the country would weather the latest political storm.

"No, I don't think so. I think, in fact, I know that there's no problem. After 21 years on Philippine matters, it will all be fine. We are not counseling or advising Americans to take any precautions of any sort," Mussomeli said Friday night in an interview aired on GMA network news, when asked if the US Embassy would issue a travel advisory.

A transcript of the brief interview is posted on the US Embassy's website.

For his part, resigned Foreign Affairs Sec. Alberto Romulo reminded all Filipino diplomats overseas on Friday that business should remain as usual despite the ongoing crisis.

"My message to them is to just do their work," Romulo told reporters in an interview at his office at the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA).

Romulo tendered his resignation on Friday following President Macapagal-Arroyo's request for all her Cabinet members to resign.

Romulo, who served as Ms Arroyo's executive secretary during her first term, was among the Cabinet members who remained loyal to her after 10 other Cabinet members called for Ms Arroyo's resignation. *Nikko Dizon*

JOIN! Drypers
Wee Wee DRY with LEAK GUARDS

up to ₱3.5M worth of prizes!

PRESKO PANALO!
RAFFLE PROMO

Actual unit may vary from the picture.

GET A CHANCE TO WIN EXCITING PRIZES OR A BRAND NEW TOYOTA INNOVA 2.5J!

Mechanics:

1. Write your name, complete address, contact number, name of store where product was purchased and affix signature on a piece of paper, and enclose in a **white legal envelope** with a Drypers pack proof of purchase.
2. Drop in drop boxes nationwide or mail your entries to:
DRYPERS PRESKO PANALO
c/o GMA 7 Edsa cor. Timog Avenue, Diliman, Q.C.
Note: Mailed in entries must have the sender's name and address on the envelope for segregation per region. Unidentified entries shall be for the account of Metro Manila.
3. Acceptable Drypers proof of purchase are as follows:
Three (3) Drypers singles pack = 1 entry
One (1) Drypers pack of 4's and up = 1 entry
Note: Drypers pack should at least be 70% intact.

There will be 2 Monthly draws and a Grand draw:

1st Monthly Draw	August 9, 2005
2nd Monthly Draw	September 9, 2005
Grand Draw	October 9, 2005

Prizes at stake are as follows:

1st Monthly Draw:
₱20,000 in cash plus 3 months supply of DRYPERS;
3 winners each from Metro Manila, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao

2nd Monthly Draw:
₱30,000 in cash plus 3 months supply of DRYPERS;
3 winners each from Metro Manila, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao

Grand Draw:
₱100,000 in cash plus 3 months supply of DRYPERS;
3 winners each from Metro Manila, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao

1 winner of a Toyota Innova 2.5J plus 3 months supply of DRYPERS

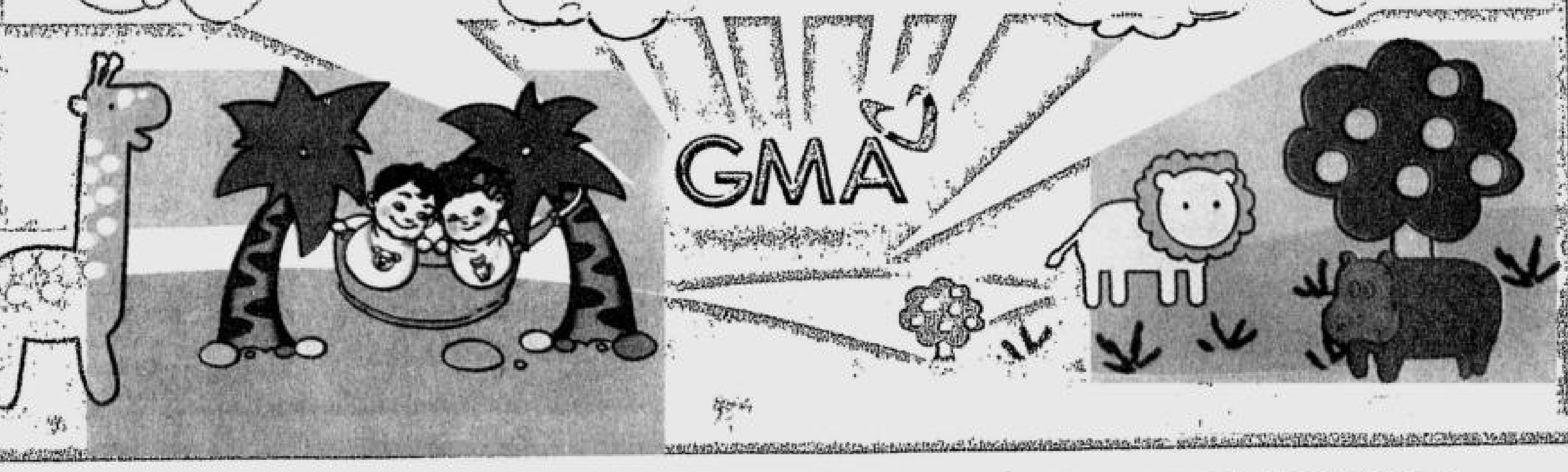
Terms and Conditions:

All non-winning entries per draw still qualify for all the succeeding draws. The entries shall be segregated per region. All draws shall be witnessed by a DTI Representative. For the grand draw, entries are first drawn regionally. After drawing all the regional winners, the entries shall be mixed together to draw the grand prize winner in the grand draw.

For the monthly draws:
A participant can only win once. In the event that a winner's name is drawn more than once, another entry shall be picked in its place.

For the grand draw:
A participant can only win once. In the event that a winner's name is drawn more than once during the drawing of the consolation prize, another entry shall be picked in its place. In the event that a consolation prize winner is drawn as the grand prize, s/he gets the grand prize and another entry shall be picked as a consolation prize winner. All winners shall be notified by registered mail or telephone. The list of winners shall also be published in a newspaper of general circulation within 2 weeks after the grand draw. Winners have until 60 days from receipt of notification to claim their prize. Prizes not claimed within the 60-day period shall be forfeited in favor of the sponsor.
To claim the prize, winners must present their letter of notification and a valid ID (driver's license, Phil. passport, company ID with picture) at Proximity Philippines 12/F 6750 Ayala Avenue, Makati City. For provincial winners, cash and Drypers prizes may be claimed at the assigned SCA Distributors' office nearest the winners' address. In the event that we encounter a provincial grand prize winner, the winner must claim the prize from Proximity Philippines at no additional cost to the sponsor. All prizes are tax-free. Prizes in kind are not convertible to cash. Registration and other related documents of the Toyota Innova 2.5J shall be shouldered by the winner. Employees of SCA, its suppliers and distributors, BBDO/Guerrero Ortega, Proximity Philippines, Mediawise, its advertising and promo agencies, GMA 7, including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.

Promo starts July 1, 2005 and ends September 30, 2005.
See flyers for more details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3369. Series of 2005.



MA, GUSTO KONG MAGING SCIENTIST.
ATOM

Need a tuition loan?
Personal Loans at our lowest rate.
For a limited time only.

Call 840-0990
Visit www.hsbc.com.ph

HSBC
The world's local bank

Issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Aides say GMA . . .

From page A1

Management Staff, said at a Cabinet press conference in Malacañang on Saturday.

Tiglao was referring to the events on Friday—the irrevocable resignation of seven Cabinet members and three agency heads whose call for Ms Arroyo to resign was supported by the Makati Business Club, the Liberal Party led by Senate President Franklin Drilon and former President Corazon Aquino.

Opposition Sen. Panfilo "Ping" Lacson twitted supporters of Ms Arroyo for giving the impression that she had weathered the political storm.

"Let them dream on. They ain't seen nothing yet," Lacson said.

Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said the storm was far from over.

"She (Ms Arroyo) is now in the eye of the storm where there's a lull before the gale force winds will thrash her up like the straw woman that she is," Pimentel said.

Environment Secretary Michael Defensor said it was natural for the Palace to be preoccupied with the political crisis, but this did not mean that Ms Arroyo would be an ineffective president.

Noise in Metro Manila

The support that Ms Arroyo received from many local officials showed that she was not a lame-duck President, according to her political adviser on political affairs, Gabriel Claudio.

"Let us not be blinded or let us not make certain conclusions about the political situation based on the noise that is being made in media or here in Metro Manila," Claudio said.

Many of the President's political supporters from the countryside trooped to the Palace the past few days to "make their presence and their support felt and seen by the President."

"And certainly if we were to see these expressions of support, especially from the countryside and from the political leadership all over the country, she is no lame-duck President," Claudio said.

Far from over

Sen. Rodolfo Biazon, an LP member, said the President seemed to have weathered a crucial test on Friday, but stressed that the turmoil was far from over.

Apart from Drilon and Biazon, Senate Majority Leader Francis Pangilinan and Sen. Manuel "Mar" Roxas II were among LP stalwarts who appealed for the President to voluntarily resign.

Lacson said former President Fidel Ramos' interference in the affairs of the state had put the government in "deeper crisis." Ramos stood by Ms Arroyo in Malacañang on Friday.

"GMA is no longer in control of government operations. A government in disguise will never succeed and will not last," Lacson said.

Like Lacson and Biazon, administration Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr. believed that the events on Friday were just the beginning. "The next two weeks will be touch and go for her."

Lack of support

Magsaysay said moves by Aquino, the LP and the Makati Business Club fizzled out because these lacked people's support.

"People are still assessing the situation. Once they have assessed the gravity of the situation, it's possible that they may start moving and getting involved," he said in a phone interview.

"The most important element is the people. If they move, it can end one way or another." Magsaysay added.

FVR resents being called kingmaker

From page A1

net deserted her on Friday.

"You must understand I am working for the country as a whole, not for any single individual although some individuals are more important than others obviously," he said.

De facto leader?

He brushed aside remarks that his action on that fateful day turned Ms Arroyo into a figurehead, and him into the "de facto" leader.

"I do not want to give that impression to anybody. These are all fortuitous events taking place," Ramos said.

"The winner is clearly FVR, who, in the guise of saving Gloria from losing the grip of power, took advantage of that critical moment to advance his own political agenda," said Wilson Fortaleza, head of Sanlakas.

"Politically speaking, the mortally wounded GMA can even be considered now as a hostage of FVR," said Fortaleza.

The United Opposition yesterday called on Ms Arroyo to inform the nation if she had started sharing power with Ramos.

Former Sen. Francisco Tatad told a UNO meeting he was surprised to see Ramos at Malacañang on Friday holding a news conference.

"We just want to know whether Mrs. Arroyo is still able to perform her duties, or whether she has, in fact, already relinquished some of her powers to the former President," Tatad told the meeting.

The 77-year-old Ramos played a crucial role in politics since, as commanding general of the Philippine Constabulary, he turned his back on dictator Ferdinand Marcos in 1986 and joined the "people power" revolt that toppled him.

When Corazon Aquino, widow of the popular opposition leader assassinated in August 1983, was ushered into power, Ramos was her guiding light during a six-year presidency in which she faced down six coup attempts.

Each time, Ramos was the key to restoring order. At the same time, the cigar-smoking, West Point-trained officer was clearing his own path to the presidency.

As military chief of staff and later Aquino's defense secretary, he was, as far as she was concerned, the natural choice to become the next president—a view not endorsed by the powerful Roman Catholic church.

Tainted Protestant

The bishops saw him as tainted with the excesses of the martial law years under Marcos. Apart from that, Ramos was a Protestant.

In 1992, he succeeded Aquino in a fiercely contested election with just 24 percent of the popular vote. His nearest rival, Miriam Santiago, polled 20 percent and claimed the vote was rigged.

In his six-year term from 1992 to 1998, Ramos restored stability and, most importantly, economic growth.

The question critics ask is whether Ramos is seeking a comeback, possibly as a prime minister in a reconfigured government.

"I am content where I am but for as long as I am able to do so, I will continue to help our people and our country regardless of who is the leader elected by the people. I am doing my part as a concerned citizen and as an ex-President," he said.

Residual influence

"It is to help ensure the well-being and security of our people as someone who still has a residual of influence being an ex-President," Ramos said.

He added: "I cannot see this country suffering continuously from the lack of unity, teamwork and patriotism on the part of our leaders whose favorite pastime is turncoatism."

Recalling last Friday's events, Ramos narrated that he was at the Riviera Golf Club in Silang, Cavite, for a golf tournament when he received a call from Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita and Speaker Jose De Venecia, inviting him to go to Malacañang.

"It appeared that they were having meeting of leaders—executive, Cabinet, legislative—with the President," he said.

When he arrived at the Ceremonial Hall at around 5:15 p.m., Ramos learned that the President, De Venecia and some other government leaders were having a press conference.

"But the seat of the President was temporarily vacated, but she also appeared a few minutes later," Ramos said. It was then that he declared his continued support for Ms Arroyo's presidency.

Commission

From the Palace, he and Ms Arroyo proceeded to the Sulo Hotel for a Lakas meeting, where he reiterated his call for the creation of a commission that would initiate constitutional changes by next year.

Asked why Ermita and De Venecia invited him to Malacañang, Ramos said: "I am the chairman emeritus of the party and I am also an ex-President and a member of the National Security Council."

Ramos, who will be a keynote speaker at the 14th conference of the International Association of University Presidents (IAUP) in Bangkok, expressed certainty that Ms Arroyo would still be the country's President when he comes back after his five-day trip.

"This government will still be here on July 15th and several more weeks ... weeks because I hope they will follow my recommendation," Ramos said. ***With reports from Blanche S. Rivera, Michael Lim Ubac and AFP***

E-VAT rumor was tipping point—Drilon

From page A1

had a hand in the Supreme Court's last-minute order on the e-VAT was the "tipping point" which prompted the officials to resign, and he shared their concerns.

"Yes, I have been advising the President privately and publicly but at a certain point, my conscience told me that we cannot have a situation where decisions are made on the basis of need to survive. It cannot be for political expediency," he told the INQUIRER. *(See related story in Across the Nation, Page A17.)*

Drilon thus explained his presence in the meeting of the resigned Cabinet members at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on Thursday evening, the night before they announced their break with the President.

Yes, he met twice with four of the 10 Cabinet officials prior to Thursday night and that was because they sought his advice. No, he did not instigate or conspire with them to force the President to resign.

No, he never talked about and was not interested in getting appointed vice president or executive secretary in a Noli de Castro administration.

Hyatt meeting

Drilon said he did not regret his presence in Hyatt Hotel or the decision of the Liberal Party to call on Ms Arroyo to step down.

"I don't have any regrets. This is a decision which I made fully conscious of the possible consequences as long as my conscience is clear," he said.

He made the clarification after Malacañang tagged him as being the mastermind of the mass resignation, an event that was followed by similar resign-GMA calls from former President Corazon Aquino, the Liberal Party and the Makati Business Club.

Drilon denied he conspired with the Cabinet members to oust Ms Arroyo and install De Castro so that he could then become the new vice president.

"I'm not interested [in the vice presidency], it's just a spare tire," Drilon said. "I'm not interested in vice president or Cabinet secretary, executive secretary."

Drilon admitted he met with four of the 10 resigned officials twice—first, before they resigned, and, second, after they reached that decision.

Tape and 'jueteng'

These were former Education Secretary Florencio Abad, former Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima, ex-Social Welfare Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman and former presidential adviser on the peace process Teresita Deles, who asked to meet with him.

"They were expressing concerns, they were disturbed about these allegations on "jueteng" and the tape and they were saying the President must make reforms in order that she can arrest the slide in public confidence," Drilon said.

He said the Cabinet officials were concerned that Ms Arroyo could not protect them from pressures of politicians because she herself was compromised.

"Given the troubles that she's going through, certainly she would do everything to survive. And in the process of doing everything to survive she will have to compromise herself," Drilon said.

Urgent reforms

The Cabinet members said they impressed upon Ms Arroyo the need for urgent reforms needed to stem the erosion of public confidence arising from the jueteng and wiretapping controversies.

On July 4, a Monday following the high court TRO, Drilon said the group of four again asked to see him in his house.

"They came to me and told me they have decided to quit," Drilon said.

He said he neither stopped them nor encouraged them and merely told them that "these are your careers, it's up to you to decide."

The same day, Drilon said he met with former President Corazon Aquino who was asking his advice on how a truth commission could be set up. He told Aquino it needed to be legislated.

Drilon denied talking with Aquino about him being a possible vice president if De Castro became president.

No conspiracy

He said he also did not know that Purisima and Abad went to Hong Kong to meet with De Castro.

Two days later, Drilon said the four officials asked him to go to Hyatt. He found them crafting their resignation letter and he just listened to their discussions.

"It's not true that I conspired with them. Goodness gracious, how can I conspire with them? I do not have that long association with them, I could not possibly cabal with them," Drilon said.

"I shared their concern for reforms. The resignations are their own individual decisions."

Drilon said it was not true that the Cabinet resignations, the withdrawal of LP support and the call of Aquino for Ms Arroyo to resign were coordinated.

He said he did not know about Aquino's statement in advance.

"The reason why her (Ms Arroyo's) ability to govern has been tremendously eroded is the perception of involvement of members of her family in jueteng and her voice appearing in the tape ... Even before that, there's so much talk in coffee shops about corruption, not just jueteng but smuggling," Drilon said.

A source said among the talk going the rounds was that a brother of a woman once rumored to be the First Gentleman's girlfriend was involved in smuggling and even building a new house in a posh subdivision.

Former Education Secretary Abad urged remaining members of the Cabinet to stop attacking the 10 resigned officials.

"I don't mind them debating us on policies, principle and positions. But the ad hominem attacks are foul and could deteriorate into muckraking," Abad said.

THE ORIGINAL!
MAGIC SING
INTERNATIONAL EDITION
THE NEXT GENERATION VIDEO KARAOKE!
MAGIC SING XTREME
HANDHELD VIDEOKE MICROPHONE
INTERNATIONAL EDITION
• WITH 88 PHILIPPINE & INTERNATIONAL SCENES • PAL/NTSC 100-240 VOLTS
VERSION 8.0 SILVER MICROPHONE
• WITH EXTERNAL VIDEO CAPABILITY
• COMPUTER READY WITH USB PORT
• 50 MINUTES RECORDING WITH OPTIONAL RECORDING PACK (AVAILABLE JULY 2005)
SOFTWARE CD SUPPLIED FOR VERSION 8.0
ALSO AVAILABLE VERSION 6.0 BLACK MICROPHONE
Manufactured by: ET ENTER TECH CO. LTD. (Korea)
BUY YOUR ORIGINAL XTREME MAGIC SING FROM THESE ASTRA DEALERS
ALL-NEW GUARANTEED ALL-ORIGINAL

METRO MANILA DEALERS
QUIAPO / BINONDO Armstrong Electronics 733-2849 • Bog's Electronics 733-2386 • Delta Appliances 533-4653 • AJD Electronics 736-3880 • JMD Electronics 736-3880 • Gemetric 314-6871 • Joy's Electronics 734-1819 • Hi-Mark Sales 736-1882 • Jems Appliances 703-1024 • Millennium Electronics 314-8508 • OK Electronic 733-9691 • Richland 734-3591 • Santech Electronics 734-1821 • W & M Marketing 735-4274 • Worldwide Audio & Video 241-3446 • MALATE / MAKATI / PARAÑAQUE / PASIG / MUNTINLUPA A. Salonga 400-4492 • Image Video 525-1015 • Sohan Audio & Video Int'l 527-1171 • Phasetron Audio Systems 819-7372 • M@RS Trading 776-8528 • U R Household Shop 687-0400 • Alabang Marketing 533-4653

PROVINCIAL DEALERS
BAGUIO Rajat Electronics (074) 444-9340 • BATAAN Ocampo's Mega Store, Inc. Balanga (047) 237-2843, Dinalupihan • BICOL Multibrand (054) 473-7282 • BOHOL Island City Mall (038) 411-3860 • CAVITE V. Divina Enterprises (046) 890-0399 • CEBU A. Salonga (032) 232-6378, M. Miranda (032) 262-3619 • DAVAO Funtronics (082) 227-0546 • ILOCOS NORTE Ricafort Trading (077) 770-3410 • LAOAG New India Dept. Store (077) 772 0679, (077) 772-0478 • Allied Marketing (077) 770-3257 • LAGUNA MSC Data Exchange (049) 562-7172 • OLONGAPO Ocampo's Olongapo, Inc. (047) 222-4444, (047) 223-3000, (047) 222-2648 • PANGASINAN Ricafort Trading (075) 522-7112 • PAMPANGA Downtown (045) 900-0225, Ocampo's Emporium (045) 963-0084, Ocampo's Jewelry (045) 888-2649 • S. COTABATO D' Sunata Record Bar General Santos (083) 553-5073, Koronadal (083) 228-3844 • TUGUEGARAO New Tuguegarao Bombay Bazaar (078) 844-2580, (078) 846-2269 • ZAMBALES Ocampo's Subic (047) 232-2930

Exclusively Distributed by:
THE ASTRA GROUP, INC.
For wholesale & dealership inquiries, visit or contact us at:
G/F Richbelt Tower, 17 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel: (632) 72-MAGIC (62442) Fax: (632) 722-4057 www.astramagicsing.com

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Hindi kailangang gumastos ng malaki para sa inyong karamdaman
Sa RiteMED
KALAHATI*
lang ang kailangan para sa inyong kalusugan
*Priced 50% lower than leading brands
Leading Brands
RiteMED™

For CHOLESTEROL	For HYPERTENSION	For DIABETES	For ASTHMA
Simvastatin	Atenolol	Gliclazide	Salbutamol
	Diltiazem	Metformin	Terbutaline
	Metoprolol		
	Propranolol		

Kumunsulta sa inyong doktor o itanong sa botika kung aling gamot ng RiteMED ang nararapat sa inyong karamdaman.

Abot-kayang gamot sa mamahaling sakit.

RiteMED™
Right Medicine, Priced Right™

Earn almost 50% of your Deposit in 5 Years

PlanAhead
TIME DEPOSIT

High-Earning, 5-year Time Deposit

College Fund? Travel Plans?
Your own business?
Get started on tomorrow.

AMOUNT OF PRINCIPAL	NOMINAL INTEREST [illegible]	AVERAGE EFFECTIVE [illegible]
₱50,000-299,999	7.875%	**9.216%**
₱300,000 and up	8.250%	**9.728%**

Quoted rates are subject to change without prior notice. For individual accounts only.

Sample Computations:

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
₱100,000	₱46,084.47	**₱146,084.47**
₱300,000	₱145,923.93	**₱445,923.93**

Open an account now and get a chance to win an all-expense paid family vacation for four to **Hong Kong Disneyland** plus spending money!

For more information, call 89-100, log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com
or visit any BPI Family Savings Bank Branch near you.

BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK
Get started on tomorrow.

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum Deposit Insurance for Each Depositor ₱250,000.

Per DTI-NCR Permit Number 1414 Series of 2005

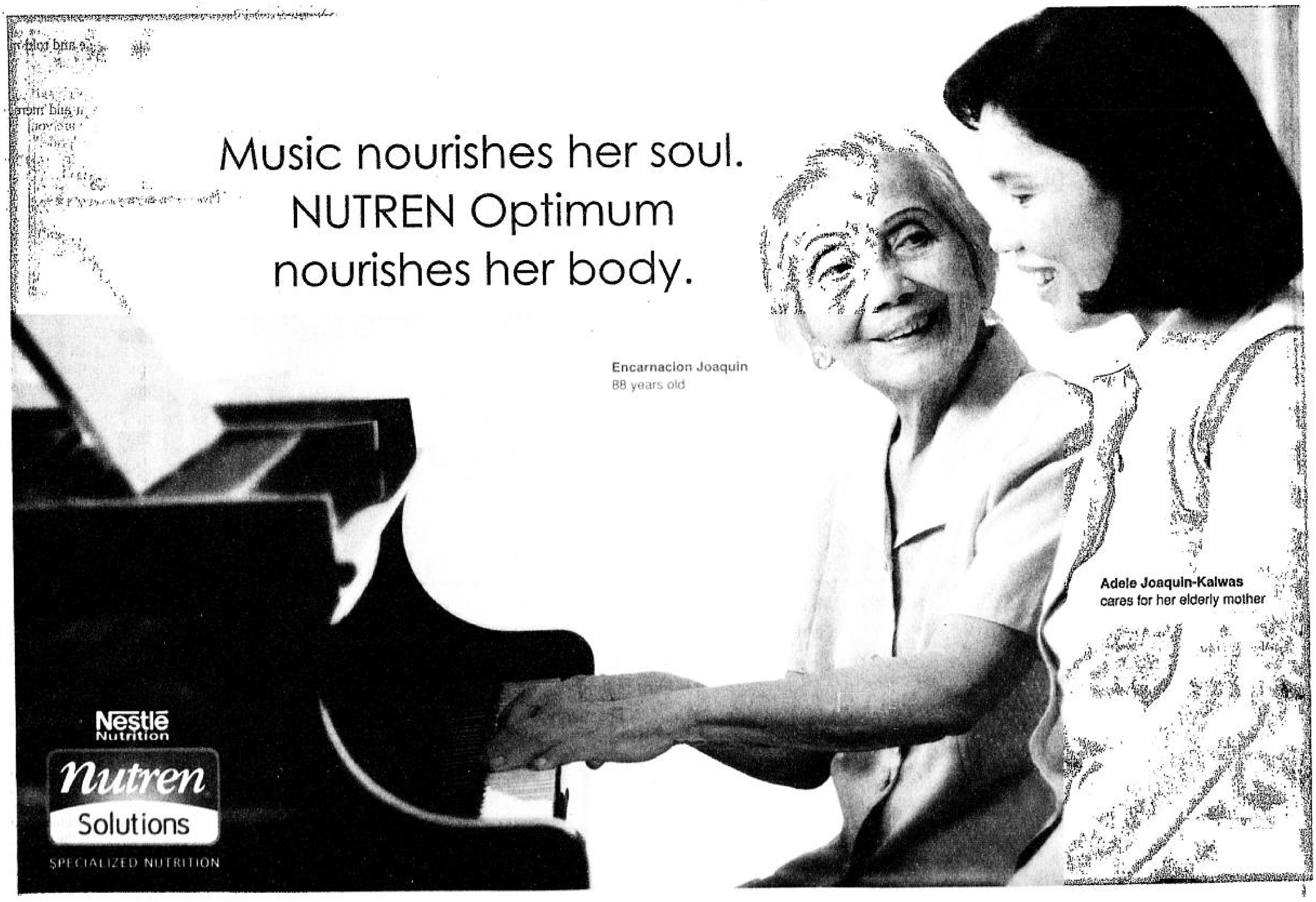
From the nation's No. 1 Newspaper:
INQUIRER
Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Where you find the best.

JOB Market

Visit us at Jobmarketonline.com

JOB Market
VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com


Music nourishes her soul.
NUTREN Optimum
nourishes her body.
Encarnacion Joaquin
88 years old
Adele Joaquin-Kalwas
cares for her elderly mother
Nestlé Nutrition
Nutren Solutions
SPECIALIZED NUTRITION

Adele and her mother are both musicians. Adele plays the flute while her mom, Encarnacion, who's almost in her 90's, can still play the piano. Given her mom's age, Adele knows that good nutrition is even more important for her strength.

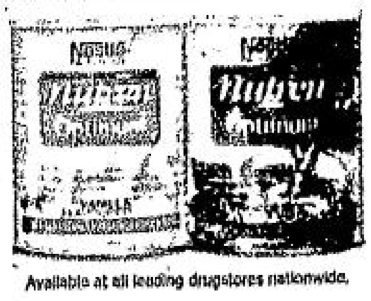
Thankfully there's NUTREN Optimum. A delicious meal replacement in Vanilla and now in Chocolate flavor. A breakthrough from the Nestlé Research Center in Switzerland and made from the finest chocolate, the taste of NUTREN Optimum Chocolate is preferred by consumers over its competition in a recently conducted consumer test. NUTREN contains whey, plus all of the essential nutrients, vitamins and minerals in every glass.

In fact, NUTREN contains at least three times more whey protein than any other commercially-prepared food product or homemade alternative. Whey protein has been clinically-proven to:

- Help maintain muscle mass throughout ageing and repair body tissues.[1]
- Provides anti-oxidative benefits by raising levels of glutathione (the body's primary anti-oxidant).[2]
- Help boost the immune system, thereby helping reduce the risk of infection.[2]

Now for people like Adele, she'll have peace of mind knowing there's NUTREN to keep her mother playing beautiful music for years to come.

FEEL STRONGER EVERYDAY



Available at all leading drugstores nationwide.

---

[1] Walzem, R.L., C.J. Dillard, and J.B. German. Crit. Rev. Food & Sci & Nutr. 42:353, 2002. [2] Mutter A. Cancer Res 1994;54(5):1969-1976.

ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT NUTREN. If you also want to know more about NUTREN SOLUTIONS, you can call us at 898-0061 or email us at nutren.solutions@ph.nestle.com and we'll be happy to answer your concerns. You can also access our website at http://www.nestle.com.ph/goodfood/food_healthcare.htm

Expletives flew as Cabinet factions bickered

From page A1

Defensor said he and other members, including Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita, took the position that Ms Arroyo's Cabinet men should not meddle in how she should deal with her husband and son because "that was a very personal matter."

"It was not in our position to do that [tell the President what to do]," said Defensor, one of Ms Arroyo's most trusted officials, in an interview at the Palace Guest House on Saturday.

Defensor said the Cabinet members met without Ms Arroyo to discuss what could be done to stem the tide of public dissatisfaction with her and her administration.

The meetings, he said, touched on three things—governance, the wiretapping controversy, and, the most sensitive of the three, her family.

"What right do we have to tell her how to deal with her family?" Defensor recalled saying at one meeting.

Disgusted Defensor

Once, he said, he walked out in disgust with the group of Corazon "Dinky" Soliman, Florencio Abad and Cesar Purisima.

Soliman resigned as social welfare secretary; Abad as education secretary; and Purisima as finance secretary. The three were joined in their resignations by Rene Villa, agrarian reform secretary; Juan Santos, trade secretary; Imelda Nicolas, chair of the National Anti-Poverty Commission; Emilia Boncodin, budget secretary; Teresita Deles, presidential adviser for the peace process; Guillermo Parayno, internal revenue bureau chief; and Alberto Lina, customs bureau chief.

Defensor said the rebels wanted the Cabinet to reach a consensus on expelling First Gentleman Mike Arroyo and son, Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo from the country.

But it was too hot an issue and tempers flew, Defensor said.

"You should elevate that [issue] to the President," he recalled telling the group in one of the meetings. "Elevate it to the President and let her decide."

Charges vs Yap

The hostilities were aggravated by the filing of tax evasion charges by the finance department against resigned Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap—an issue that took up time at one of the meetings supposed to focus on the crisis confronting Ms Arroyo.

Defensor recalled that at one meeting, Yap stood up on learning he was being criticized in one TV station over the tax charges and blamed Purisima for the flak he was getting.

According to Defensor, while the Cabinet members agreed to endorse to the President social and economic reform packages designed to show she was bent on good governance, they remained at odds over how she should handle the scandal hanging over her family.

Soliman, he said, was to be in charge of a social reform program designed to show Ms Arroyo's focus on poverty alleviation, while Santos was to be in charge of an economic reform program that would deal with deficits, generate more jobs and achieve overall economic improvement.

These programs, according to Defensor, were to be carried out unusually fast, in two to six months, and had already received the approval of Ms Arroyo "so I can't understand what made them (the rebel group) break away."

'Plot' vs GMA

Defensor later said the rebels were part of a plot to oust Ms Arroyo that was allegedly hatched by a group in the Liberal Party led by Senate President Franklin Drilon.

The result of the Cabinet feud was apparent—two copies of the apology speech were given to Ms Arroyo. One said she apologizes for making the call to Garcillano and would soon carry out drastic reforms that included expelling her husband.

The other speech version simply said she was admitting making the call and was sorry for it.

The first speech version was what the rebel group wanted the President to read on national TV. Other Cabinet members wanted her to simply clam up but gave in to pressure for Ms Arroyo to break her silence.

GMA shows her hand

When the President finally spoke on TV, it became apparent which side she took.

Ms Arroyo did announce the decision of her husband to leave the country in a meeting with businessmen a day after she made the public apology, but some Cabinet members took it as a sign of her reluctance to be as drastic as possible in carrying out reforms.

The two sets of speeches, according to a source belonging to the group advising Ms Arroyo on political matters, represented the choices made available to Ms Arroyo by her deeply divided Cabinet.

One source, an official who helps coordinate the President's dealings with Congress, said the decision to go public with an admission and an apology was firmed up about two days before Ms Arroyo went on TV.

Desire to stonewall

"It came after a very hectic period," said the official. "Almost every hour, there's a meeting going on."

The decision to apologize came despite opposition from some Cabinet members—Defensor, Ermita, Claudio; Angelo Reyes, interior secretary; Hermogenes Ebdane, public works secretary; and Leandro Mendoza, transport secretary.

"They wanted to stonewall," said one subordinate of a Cabinet member.

The recommendation for Ms Arroyo to just keep her mouth shut on the supposed wiretapped conversation was meant to show that the scandal was not affecting her governance.

It was also intended to show, according to another source, that the President did not cheat.

"What is there to apologize for?" asked one source. "The opposition lost because they were not well-organized."

Enough weapons

"They were unable to fill up slots for candidates in local positions. They did not have anybody in the local level."

The source said the group that wanted Ms Arroyo to stonewall believed she and her allies had enough weapons to fight off accusations that she stole the election without resorting to an admission that she called Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano.

Among these weapons, he said, was a report by a US monitoring team that said the results of the 2004 presidential election were credible.

This line of thinking clashed with the ideas of the rebel group.

A source said that while the divided Cabinet was searching for ways to save the administration, another group quietly met in the Palace. This group included Drilon, Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz, Ermita and businessman Tomas Alcantara, one of the President's closest associates.

Drilon's frustrations

The group, which was called the "crisis committee" although its existence was known only to its members, had also taken the position that Ms Arroyo should break her silence on allegations of election fraud.

This group also wanted the President to declare a total war on jueteng, revamp the Commission on Elections, and fire her police chief, Arturo Lomibao, who was also accused of receiving jueteng payola.

When the group's meetings in Malacañang were already leaking out to reporters, Drilon called Cruz up to tell the defense chief: "Next time, let's not meet in Malacañang anymore," according to one source.

The source said frustration set in, especially on Drilon, when the group saw no sign that Ms Arroyo would heed two key recommendations—declare total war on jueteng and fire Lomibao.

The failure of the rebel and Drilon groups to win Ms Arroyo's complete trust and agreement further deepened the division in her Cabinet.

At one stage, Defensor said, the group of Soliman and Purisima proposed that the entire Cabinet resign.

"What were they trying to say?" Defensor said. "After serenading the President and giving her flowers, they were going to stab her in the back?"

Cabinet members had serenaded Ms Arroyo with the song "If We Hold On Together" and given her flowers after her televised public apology.

"What was that all about?" asked Defensor.

'Light candle at Edsa' . . .

From page A1

flowers and candles will make her see the light.

A small group of middle-class protesters converged yesterday at the foot of the People Power Monument on Edsa to pray for "peace and enlightenment."

They urged Filipinos to ask for the resignation of Ms Arroyo, but to do it peacefully.

How? The group suggested bringing flowers and lighting candles at the foot of the monument, until the flowers and candles cover the memorial and spill out to Edsa.

"The enlightenment is for President Arroyo. Maybe our prayers will enlighten her to finally accept resignation. We pray it will soften her heart and spirit," said "running priest" Robert Reyes. "It is also for Filipinos consumed by apathy."

He then quoted 13th-century poet Dante who said that the hottest place in hell was reserved for those who in time of crisis remain neutral.

The protesters, who set up a tent in the area and started to fast, was made up of members of the People's Assembly for Genuine Alternative to Social Apathy (Pag-asa), the Kapatiran Party and a group of Muslims.

Pag-asa is a nonpartisan ecumenical group composed of urban professionals. Kapatiran is antigun and aims to promote prolife policies in government.

"[We will have] no water, no food, and no talk. Our plan is to have three to five people fasting for 24 hours straight, every day, until Gloria resigns," Reyes said.

Messages to Palace

They also set up a writing board where people could express their feelings to the President, with plans to send the messages to Malacañang.

Nandy Pacheco, Kapatiran president and peace crusader, said the people needed another approach to effect change at this time.

"Maybe what we need is to keep silent and simply listen to God. We must give Him the opportunity to tell us what He wants," he said.

"Prayer is very powerful. She (Ms Arroyo) will certainly feel the silence, it will be very loud," Pacheco said. "God can make her resign."

Reyes shared a theory as to why, despite calls from influential parties for Ms Arroyo to resign, people had not taken to the streets.

"Those calling on people to go to the streets have no credibility. The people don't trust them," he said.

Another way, Reyes said, was to resort to public prayer. "People can make their voices known by praying and lighting candles. We urge them to come here."

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO GO PARADISE HOPPING.

We can fly you to more of Micronesia than any other airline.

From the more popular Guam, Saipan, and Palau, to the lesser known but just as beguiling Chuuk, Pohnpie, Kosrae, and Yap. And your trip to paradise begins when you get on board. Courtesy of a crew that embodies the warmth of the islands, providing a service that's safe, comfortable, and reliable. Earn mileage on OnePass, our award-winning frequent flyer program. For reservations, call Continental at (063-2) 8188701 (Makati City) or (063-32) 2557533 (Cebu City). Visit continental.com.

Continental Airlines SKYTEAM

Work Hard. Fly Right.®

Holiday packages include round trip airfare, 3-days/2-nights hotel accomodations in Guam or Saipan, or 4-days/3 nights in Palau (extendable to 14 days), daily hotel breakfast, and airport/hotel transfers. © 2005 Continental Airlines, Inc.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

US, UK eye major troop pullout from Iraq next year

LONDON—The United States and Britain are considering the withdrawal of more than 100,000 coalition troops from Iraq next year as one of many options but no decision has been made, the British defense ministry said Sunday.

"We have always said that it is our intention to hand over the lead in fighting terrorists to the Iraqi Security Forces as their capability increases," said a defense ministry spokesperson.

"We therefore continually produce papers outlining possible options… this is but one of a number of papers produced over recent months covering various possible scenarios," she said.

"It is simply prudent planning."

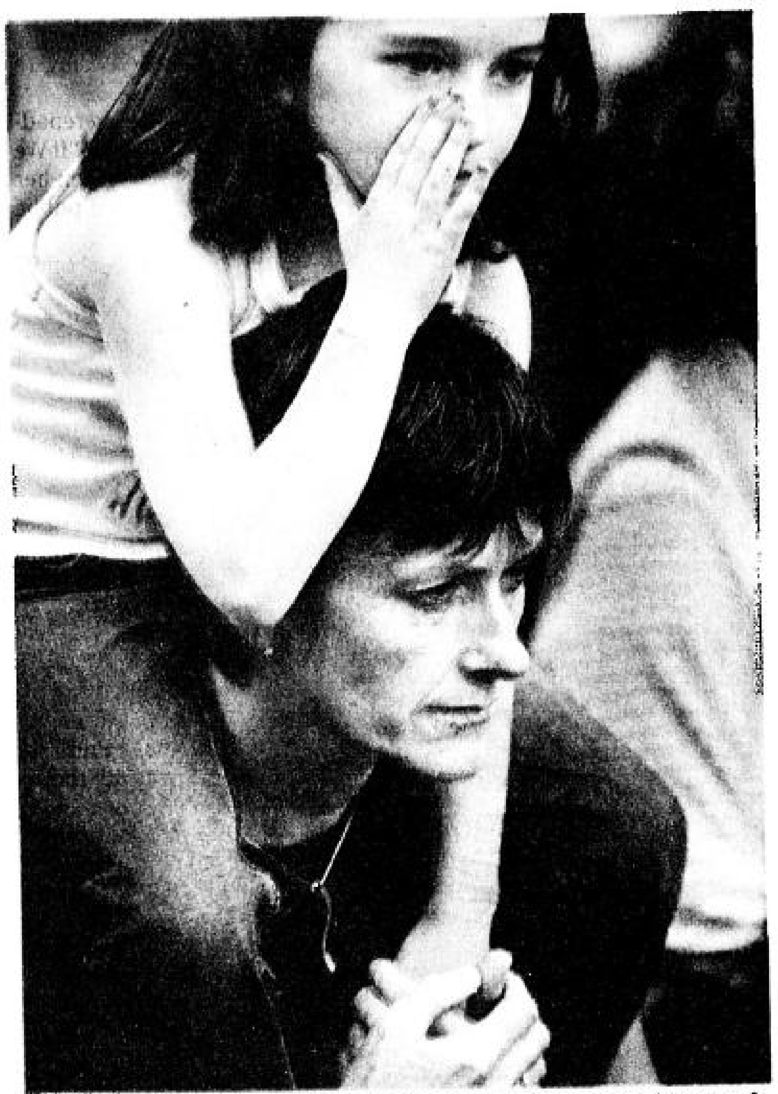
The spokesperson was referring to a document by British Defense Secretary John Reid, which was leaked to the Mail on Sunday.

The document said Washington hoped to hand over control of security to Iraqi forces in 14 out of 18 provinces in the country by early next year, allowing it to slash US-led troop levels to 66,000 from 176,000.

Britain, for its part, had a plan to cut its 8,500-strong contingent to 3,000.

The document—entitled "Options for future UK force posture in Iraq" and marked "Secret—UK eyes only" said London would need to reach decisions later this year on troop levels.

Britain, which heads a foreign military force in southern Iraq, wants to give back control of Al-Muthanna and Maysan provinces this October, followed by the other two provinces it handles next April, it said. *AFP*



FATHER and daughter participate in a memorial in remembrance of the victims of Thursday's London bombings in a park near King's Cross station in central London, July 9. AP

Hunt widens for bombers amid scare in UK city

LONDON—Nerves frayed as the hunt for the London bombers intensified Sunday amid a scare in Britain's second city of Birmingham, where police evacuated some 20,000 people to investigate a suspect package.

As distraught friends and relatives continued to search frantically for 25 missing loved ones following the carnage in London, bomb disposal squad officers carried out four controlled explosions on a bus in central Birmingham and probed a box with wires coming out and a switch on top.

Assistant chief constable Stuart Hyde said the police acted following information on a "substantial threat" late Saturday and said the evacuation of the area was "a proportionate response to the information."

However, Hyde discounted a direct link to the London bombing of three trains and a bus in carefully coordinated attacks Thursday which killed at least 50 people and left some 700 injured.

"I do not believe that the incident that we are dealing with this evening is connected with the events of July 7 in London."

The heart of Britain's second city in central England, 195 km from London, was sealed off overnight but West Midlands Police said the cordon had largely lifted by 6:00 a.m.

Andy Trotter, deputy chief constable of the British Transport Police, said the search for bodies still in London Underground train tunnels some 40 m below ground in temperatures reaching 60 Celsius was gruelling.

"It is extremely hot, very dusty and it is a great challenge for them to continue their work to recover the remaining bodies from the train underground," Trotter told a news conference.

"It is perfectly possible, given the attacks of Thursday, that terrorists could strike again," he added.

As rescuers struggled to uncover more bodies from the bowels of the Underground system, Sunday was to witness a program of remembrance and commemoration to mark the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II.

Queen Elizabeth II and members of the royal family were to attend a special service at Westminster Abbey where the Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams was to preside.

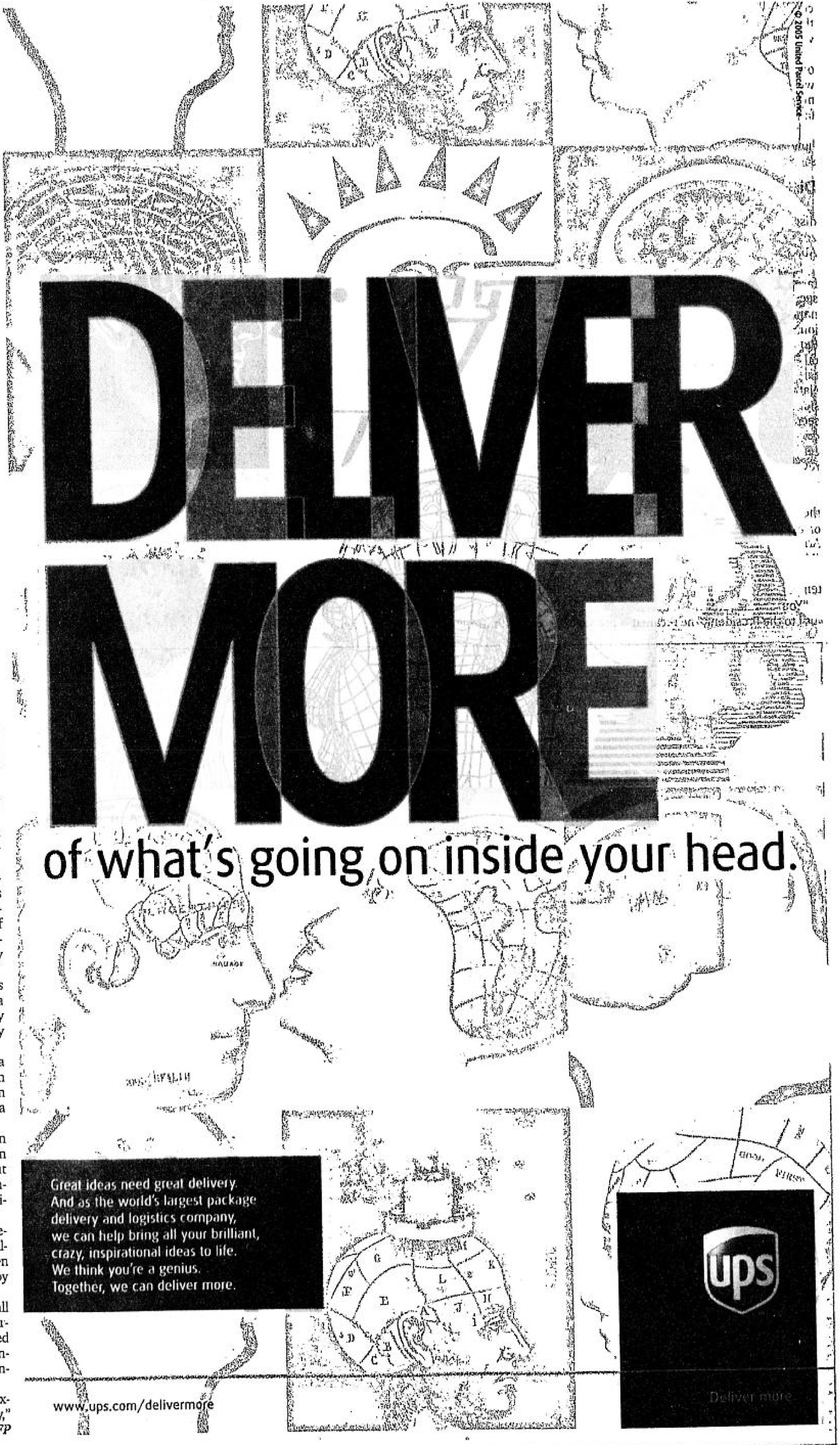
The queen was later to attend a veteran's lunch at Buckingham Palace and then a commemoration show in central London prior to a fly-past of World War II aircraft.

Police revealed the three train blasts in London occurred within 50 seconds of one another at about 8:50 a.m. rather than at intervals across 26 minutes, as initially believed.

Such coordination showed a precision-timed attack by suspected al-Qaida fanatics and there have been two claims of responsibility by groups linked to the organization.

"It would appear now that all three bombs on the London Underground system actually exploded within seconds of each other," London Metropolitan Police commander Brian Paddick said Saturday.

"In fact, the three bombs exploded almost simultaneously," he told a news conference. *AFP*


DELIVER MORE
of what's going on inside your head.
© 2005 United Parcel Service
UPS
Deliver more

Great ideas need great delivery.
And as the world's largest package delivery and logistics company,
we can help bring all your brilliant, crazy, inspirational ideas to life.
We think you're a genius.
Together, we can deliver more.

www.ups.com/delivermore

Let the numbers speak !

19.07%

*Full year Return from Jan 1 to Dec. 29, 2004

The Sun Life Prosperity Balanced Fund outperformed all other balanced funds in 2004 with a 19.07% full year return.

There's a Sun Life Prosperity Fund to suit the taste of every type of investor. Check them out here.

PROSPERITY FUND	FUND COMPONENT	RISK PROFILE	RETURNS* 2004 Jan 1 - Dec 29	2003 Jan 1 - Dec 31	2003-2004 Jan 1 '03 - Dec 29 '04
BOND	Purely Fixed Income	Risk Averse	7.85%	8.40%	16.91%
BALANCED	Equities & Fixed Income	Risk Tolerant	19.07%	31.50%	56.58%
PHILIPPINE EQUITY	Mostly Equities	Risk Taker	20.16%	39.84%	68.03%

* Rates of return after tax and exclusive of sales loads of the Sun Life Prosperity Funds during the periods indicated. Please note that these only indicate fund performance over the given periods and do not necessarily indicate future returns.

Managed and distributed by:
Sun Life Asset Management Company, Inc.
10/F Tower II, The Enterprise Center
6766 Ayala Avenue, Makati City, Philippines
E-mail: [illegible]
Visit: www.sunlifefunds.com

Investing made easy.

Invest in a Sun Life Prosperity Fund today.
Call your Mutual Fund Representative at 849-9888 or through toll free numbers 1-800-10-sunlife.

Sun Life Financial

Invest wisely. Important information about the Sun Life Prosperity Funds is contained in their respective prospectuses. Please obtain copies from your Sun Life Mutual Fund representative and read them carefully before investing. Share values, yields, and investment returns will fluctuate. Sun Life Asset Management Company, Inc. is a member of the Sun Life Financial group of companies.

AIRFARES | EXCITING PACKAGES

AIRFARES		EXCITING PACKAGES	
Hongkong	$ 205	BANGKOK PACKAGE	$ 195
Bangkok	$ 169	SINGAPORE - KUALA LUMPUR PKG	$ 359
Singapore	$ 168	BANGKOK - HONGKONG PACKAGE	$ 310
Australia	$ 375	SINGAPORE - HONGKONG PACKAGE	$ 365
Europe	$ 715	SINGAPORE - BANGKOK PACKAGE	$ 315
East Coast	$ 794	SINGAPORE - BANGKOK - HONGKONG PKG	$ 479
LAX/SFO	$ 588/767	SINGAPORE PACKAGE	$ 245
Malaysia	$ 234	AUSTRALIA PACKAGE	$ 585
Seoul(PAL)	$ 376	4D/3N SHANGHAI PACKAGE	$ 398
Shanghai	$ 325	1N HONG KONG + 1N SHENZHEN (SJ)	$ 128
Xiamen	$ 209	2NITES HONG KONG (SJ)	$ 148
Narita	$ 435	HONGKONG DISNEYLAND	$ 378
		14 DAYS EUROPE TOUR	$ 1989

BORACAY 5022
PALAWAN 5500 / BOHOL 5120
CEBU 5755/ DAVAO 6299

MBO TOURS AND TRAVEL SERVICES
2/F 1095 Pablo Ocampo corner Conchu Sts., Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos.: 484-3581 / 521-4744 / 530-8234 / 484-3583 / 522-1107
09282860119 / 09172757128 / mbo_tourstravelservices@yahoo.com

NO HIDDEN CHARGES

HONGKONG $195
1 NITE HKG/1 NITE SHENZHEN
AIRPORT-HOTEL TRANSFER
CITY TOURS

BANGKOK $208
3D/2N HOTEL ACCOMM
DAILY BREAKFAST
AIRPORT-HOTEL TRANSFER
HALF DAY CITY TOUR

SINGAPORE $299
4D/3N HOTEL ACCOMM
DAILY BREAKFAST
AIRPORT-HOTEL TRANSFER
HALF DAY CITY TOUR

Passport renewal
₱1199 only
IWAS ABALA
Local Tour Packages also available

Philippine Explorer
438 5165 438 3942 439 5982
0922-8780990

MALL OUTLETS:

Robinsons Sta. Rosa	(049) 837-8251
SM Bacoor,Cavite	(046) 417-3213
Festival Supermall	842-9028
Robinsons Manila	302-0095

BUDGET PACKAGES

PUERTO GALERA	$ 48
BORACAY	P 2129
SAGADA-BANAUE ADVENTURE	P 4993
BOHOL	P 5910

PROMO TICKETS

HONGKONG	$ 210
BANGKOK	$ 178
SINGAPORE	$ 195
KUALA LUMPUR	$ 235
AUSTRALIA	$ 385
LOS ANGELES	$ 609
LAX/SAN FRANCISCO	$ 765
HONOLULU	$ 615
VANCOUVER	$ 815
NEW JERSEY	$ 709
EAST COAST	$ 795
EUROPE	$ 715

3D/2N CANTON + HONGKONG + SHENZHEN	$ 88
4D/3N HONGKONG DISNEYLAND	$ 368
SINGAPORE $ 165 / HONGKONG BLOCKINGS	$ 265
BANGKOK $ 178 / KOTA KINABALU	$ 129
1NITE HONGKONG + 1NITE SHENZHEN	$ 128
2NITE HONGKONG + 1NITE SHENZHEN	$ 140
2NITE HONGKONG + 2NITE SHENZHEN	$ 168
5D/4N SHENZHEN + SHANGHAI	$ 290
6D/5N SHENZHEN + BEIJING	$ 299
8D/7N SHENZHEN + SHANGHAI + BEIJING	$ 398
SINGAPORE LIMITED PROMO	$ 238
HONGKONG FREE & EASY	$ 249
KUALA LUMPUR + GENTING HIGHLANDS	$ 218
EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE	$2980

FIRST TIME IMMIGRANT FARES AT VERY LOW PRICE!!!
VISA ASSISTANCE, PASSPORT PROCESSING, DOMESTIC TICKETS & LOCAL PACKAGES, CAR RENTALS, HOTEL RESERVATIONS & EDUCATIONAL TOURS

AIR TRAVEL GUIDE & TOURS, INC.
2nd Floor Unit C Davis Bldg., A. Mabini cor. Sta. Monica Sts., Ermita, Manila
Tel. Nos.: 400-3013 / 303-1410 / 303-3608 Fax No.: 522-0354
Cell# 0922-8788871/0917-3295594 E-mail: airtrvlguide@amadeusph.com
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

HAVE A COMPETITIVE EDGE!
Study at
VERNON TAPALLA'S
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS and THE WRITING INSTITUTE
Only P2,500 PER COURSE

SCB	The Success & Confidence Building Program
CP1	On Speech Improvement, Effective Self-Presentations & Personality Development
CP2	On Grammar & Conversational English
CP3	On Public Speaking & Leadership Training
WP1	On Business & Technical Writing
WP2	On Feature & Creative Writing
JCP	On Speech, Grammar, Public Speaking, Confidence Bldg., Personality Dev't., + Reading and Comprehension for kids

PRIVATE TUTORING & CORPORATE TRAINING ARE AVAILABLE
MAKATI - 892-9502 /892-9503 ALABANG - 845-0886

Colors of Flying
Buy 2 take 1 only $498
Buy 2 take 2 only $628

EXCITING PACKAGES		AFFORDABLE FARES	
HONGKONG+SZN	$128	LOS ANGELES	$620
HONGKONG	$148	SAN FRANCISCO	$780
BANGKOK	$195	NEWARK	$710
SINGAPORE	$237	EUROPE	$720
SIN+KUALA+INDO	$295	AUSTRALIA	$395
KOTA KINABALU	$128	SINGAPORE	$195
KUALA+GENTING	$218	BANGKOK	$178
GUAM	$325		
SEOUL	$515		
WEST COAST	$590		

HONGKONG W/DISNEYLAND PACKAGES AVAILABLE
WE ALSO HAVE DOMESTIC PACKAGES, STAR CRUISES PACKAGES
Member: PTAA RE-2005-341

COLORS TRAVEL & TOURS
Rm. 611 Pacific Bldg, Quintin Paredes St, Binondo Manila
Tel: 241-8175 Tel/Fax: 242-0798 Mobile: 0922-8120961
Email: ctt@colors-travel.com

traveling in appreciation of GOD's beautiful & bountiful creations

JORDAN, HOLYLAND & EGYPT
SEPT 19 - 30 • US$ 1,580
HIGHLIGHTS: AMMAN - PETRA - CANA - TIBERIAS - HAIFA - EIN KAREM - JERUSALEM - BETHLEHEM - JERICHO - DEAD SEA - ST. CATHERINE - CAIRO

EUROPE MARIAN PILGRIMAGE
OCT 1 - 14 • US$ 2,700
HIGHLIGHTS: PARIS - NEVERS - PARAY LE MONIAL - LOURDES - ZARAGOZA - BARCELONA - MONSERRAT - MONTE CARLO - NICE - PISA - FLORENCE - ASSISI - ROME

SCANDINAVIA & RUSSIA
SEPT 07 - 19 • US$ 2,790
HIGHLIGHTS: COPENHAGEN - STOCKHOLM - BALTIC SEA CRUISE - HELSINKI - ST. PETERSBURG - NOVGOROD - MOSCOW

4D	BRUNEI & BANGKOK	$370
8D	SYDNEY & GOLDCOAST	$920
11D	US WEST COAST	$1850

FLY & CRUISE

5N	CARIBBEAN	$1,386
7N	ALASKA	$1,640
11N	MEDITERRANEAN	$2,030

OTHER CRUISE DESTINATIONS AVAILABLE

PIRKKO & TROYTOURS, INC.
Tels. 688-8846 • 688-8658 • 687-2694 Fax: 688-8846
Unit 210 City & Land Mega Plaza (2nd flr. Parking Level) ADB Ave. cor Garnet St., Ortigas Center, Pasig City

INTERNATIONAL PACKAGES

HKG / SHZ / CNTN	$ 98
HONGKONG Buy2 take1	$379
DISNEYLAND HONGKONG	$458

BANGKOK	$189	SAIGON	$ 304
GREAT SINGAPORE Sale	$232	SHANGHAI	$ 391
MACAU	$248	BEIJING	$ 513
BANGKOK + PATTAYA	$250	HOLYLAND TOUR	$1,590
KUALA LUMPUR	$299	EUROPEAN ADVENTURE	$1,998
SINGAPORE / MALAYSIA / INDONESIA			$299

BUDGET AIRFARES / BUDGET AIRFARES / BUDGET AIRFARES

BANGKOK 175	SINGAPORE (m2pax) 190	HONGKONG 208
EUROPE 720	AUSTRALIA (m2pax) 399	LAX / SFO 770

CARNELIAN HOLIDAY TOURS & TRAVEL
HEAD OFFICE-TIMOG
Tel.Nos.: 4109489; 4104801 4119051 ;4109117; 4104800
Text inq: 09228113214; 09182526027
E-mail Add: carnelianholiday@yahoo.com
FAIRVIEW BRANCH
Tels: 4312284 / 4312285 / 4312281 4300892 / 4300356
Text inq: 0918-9332780 / 0928-6153455
E-mail Add: carnelian.fairview@gmail.com
OPEN MONDAYS to SUNDAYS
WE DELIVER TICKETS AT NO EXTRA COST ! (within Metro Manila Only)

PACKAGE PROMO
11 DAYS EUROPEAN JEWELS US$ 1968

HKG + SHZN + CANTON Pkg	$ 88	MACAU Pkg	$ 248
HONGKONG + SHENZHEN Pkg	$ 128	KUALA LUMPUR	$ 294
HONGKONG PROMO Pkg	$ 148	JAKARTA Pkg	$ 360
BANGKOK PROMO Pkg	$ 183	BALI Pkg	$ 356
BANGKOK/PATTAYA Pkg	$ 228	SHANGHAI Pkg	$ 305
BANGKOK + BRUNEI	$ 295	BEIJING Pkg	$ 509
PHUKET Package	$ 295	GUAM Pkg	$ 338
SINGAPORE PROMO Pkg	$ 235	SAIPAN Pkg	$ 345
SIN + MALAYSIA + INDONESIA	$ 295	PALAU Pkg	$ 410
SINGAPORE + MALAYSIA	$ 375	SYDNEY Pkg	$ 570

INT'L TICKETS		DOMESTIC PKG	
HONGKONG	$ 210	PUERTO GALERA	P 2,800
BANGKOK	$ 178	LAOAG	P 5,360
SINGAPORE	$ 192	BORACAY	P 6,045
KUALA LUMPUR	$ 234	PALAWAN	P 5,780
AUSTRALIA	$ 389	CEBU	P 5,465
LOS ANGELES	$ 770	BOHOL	P 6,110
SAN FRANCISCO	$ 770	BACOLOD	P 5,675
CHICAGO	$ 805	ILOILO	P 5,530
NEW YORK	$ 805	DAKAK	P 7,115
NEW JERSEY	$ 805	CAGAYAN DE ORO	P 6,885
VANCOUVER	$ 780	DAVAO	P 6,510
EUROPE	$ 720		

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARD PAYMENT
PATISSE INT'L TRAVEL & TOURS
G/F LBB2 BLDG., 1933 SAN ANDRES ST., MALATE, MLA.
TEL. 4007701 / 4007702 / 5236954 Fax: 4007705
Cell # : 0920-9510896 / 0919-2841767
E-mail: patissetrvl@amadeusph.com/patisse2000@edsamail.com.ph

MIT MANILA INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL IATA
GROUND FLOOR ERMITA CENTER BUILDING,1350 ROXAS BOULEVARD, MANILA
LOW COST AIRLINE TICKETS

BUDGET FARES		PROMO PACKAGE	
SINGAPORE	$187	HKG/SHENZHEN	$178
JAPAN	$395	HKG/DISNEYLAND	$348
KUALA LUMPUR	$265	BANGKOK	$195
HONOLULU	$620	MACAU	$248
EUROPE	$720	BEGAWAN	$295
CANADA	$780	SINGAPORE	$248
AUSTRALIA	$385	GUAM	$335

FARES TO USA $750 ONLY
HOTLINES (632) 521-9384 / (632) 522-0687 / (632) 5221829

TRANSNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURS, INC.
MAKATI: 753-3380/1121 | BONI / EDSA: 533-7731 / 747-1204 | QUEZON CITY: 431-4629 / 952-7974 | SHAW BLVD.: 687-0550 / 632-9187 | PARANAQUE: 776-2220 • 776-2517
CEL NOS: 0917-791-8236 / 0921-737-6715

BANGKOK BLOCKINGS
VIA THAI AIRWAYS JULY 22

$188 FIRST HOUSE	$205 FIRST HOTEL / WHITE ORCHID	$215 BKK PALACE / BAIYOKE SUITE
$225 MANDARIN / ASIA BANGKOK	$230 INDRA REGENT - D MA PAVILLION / AMBASSADOR	$240 BAIYOKE SKY / CENTURY PARK

$255 ARNOMA - JADE PAVILLION / GRAND CHINA PRINCESS	$275 SIAM CITY	$285 NOVOTEL / HOLIDAY INN	$410 INTERCONTINENTAL

WORLD YOUTH DAY AIRFARE LIMITED SEATS ONLY!
VIA MH 8-22 AUGUST $830
VIA LH 10-22 AUGUST $880

CHINA PACKAGES

$88 1N HKG+1N SZN JULY 15 ONLY	$159 2N HKG	$195 2N HKG W/ OCEAN PARK TOUR	$420 FULLBOARD SHZN + SHANGHAI+BEIJING SAT DEP

DISNEYLAND PACKAGE ALSO AVAILABLE
WE ALSO OFFER DOMESTIC TKTS, LOCAL TOUR PKG, PASSPORT, VISA AND OTHERS.
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED / E-mail: trans_fare@nedsl.com.ph

MEGA SAVER'S PACKAGE!!!

INT'L PACKAGE			
HONGKONG DISNEYLAND		JAKARTA	$361
Can/Hkg/Shz	$88	BALI	$365
3D/2N HKG	$128	TAIPEI/KAOSIUNG	$330
4D/3N HKG	$148	PHNOM PENH	$491
5D/4N HKG	$168	SIEM REAP	$499
KUALA LUMPUR	$308	BRUNEI	$295
SEOUL	$538	LOCAL TOURS	
SAIGON	$309	BORACAY	Php 8,701
SIN/MALAYSIA	$366	PALAWAN	Php 10,801
BKK/PATTAYA	$255	BOHOL	Php 9,985
BANGKOK	$199	PUERTO GALERA	$48
SINGAPORE	$237	"STUDENT FIELD TRIPS"	
SHANGHAI	$396	TICKET ONLY	
BEIJING	$518	LAX/SFO	$790
MACAU	$248	AUSTRALIA	$399
SYDNEY	$609	VANCOUVER	$840
MELBOURNE	$588	GUAM	$381
BRISBANE	$589	EUROPE	$660
GOLD COAST	$627	MEL/SYD	$495
CAINS	$581	PASSPORT PROCESSING	

Seven Seas Travel and Tours
Unit 156 I CK SY DIAMOND BLDG., LIBERTAD, PASAY CITY
Tel. nos.: 833-1986 / 833-7173
e-mail: seas88@info.com.ph / seas882003@yahoo.com

BORACAY BUDGET BLAST
ENJOY 3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS STAY IN BORACAY
P 2,999.00+ Only!!!
Includes:
> Twin Sharing Standard Accommodation
> Daily Continental Breakfast
> Roundtrip Transfers
First 10 BOOKINGS FOR THE DAY GET AN EXTRA NIGHT* FREE!!!
*ROOM ONLY
HURRY! LIMITED OFFER ONLY!
CALL US NOW @ 812-5213
OR TEXT 0920-9702728

Special Promo Package
HONGKONG $128 $148 $168
BANGKOK $178 $195 $205
SINGAPORE $237 $250 $260

BUDGET FARES :

HONGKONG	$ 210	HONOLULU	$ 910
BANGKOK	$175	AUSTRALIA	$ 468
SINGAPORE	$ 192	NEW YORK	$ 920
VANCOUVER	$ 920	NAGOYA	$ 636
OSAKA	$ 405	TAIPEI	$ 300
TOKYO	$ 415	SEOUL	$ 345
LAX / SFO	$ 900	TORONTO	$ 910

HONGKONG OCEAN PARK $285
SINGAPORE DAYTRIP MALAYSIA INDONESIA $ 290
3NITES BANGKOK 1NITE PATTAYA $268
SHENZHEN HONGKONG MACAU PACKAGE $300

OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC TICKETS/PACKAGES ARE AVAILABLE
WE ALSO OFFER PASSPORTING VISA ASSISTANCE & NSO

SANS TRAVEL & TOURS
MAIN: P.TUAZON CUBAO
TEL# 913-9560, 913-9508, 438-8227 439-8769, 439-2847
CELL.#: 0916-2581024, 0919-5634347, 0920-5416440
BRANCH: WEST AVE. Q.C.
TEL: 376-2810, 376-2811 410-8899, 410-3355
CEL #: 0916-5699734/0928-3515808
E-mail: sans_travel@yahoo.com
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

MC McBride
FIRST AID
FIRST AID KIT

HELP IN A HURRY!
MC™ McBride
FIRST AID KIT
VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT MERCURY DRUG STORE
2nd Flr. Glorietta 3, Makati

- 1 pc. First Aid Kit Bag PVC Oxford Textile with Multi-Pocket
- 5 pcs. Bantam Strips
- 1 pc. Menthol Strips
- 1 pc. Torniquet
- 3 pcs. McBride Gauze Pads - sterile 4x4
- 1 pc. McBride Eye Pad - sterile
- 1 pc. McBride Triangular Bandage
- 1 pc. McBride Elastic Bandage size 4x5 yds.
- 1 btl. Alcohol 120 mL.
- 1 btl. Aromatic Spirit of Ammonia
- 1 pc. Burn Ointment
- 1 pc. Plaster 1x5 (2.5 x 1m)
- 1 pc. Ice Bag #8
- 1 pack Instant Cold Pack
- 1 btl. Povidone Iodine 30 mL
- 1 pack Cotton 12 G
- 1 pc. Oral Thermometer
- 1 pc. Bandage Scissor
- 1 pc. Thumb Forcep
- 1 pc. Operating Scissor

Available in mercury drug Stores Nationwide
Manufactured for and Exclusively Distributed by: medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City Tels. 631-1715, 631-9355; 637-9504
Fax (632) 631-7869 E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

HONEY HOLIDAYS

3D	HONGKONG+SHENZHEN Dep: July 15 only	$88
3D	HONGKONG Dep: July 15,22,29 Aug 5,12,19 & 26	$149
4D	2 nitesHONGKONG+ 1 nite SHENZHEN Dep. July 14 only	$199
5D	HONGKONG+SHENZHEN Dep. July 15, 22, 29 Aug 5, 12, 19 & 26	$168
6D	HONGKONG/SHENZHEN ZHUHAI/MACAU Dep: July 19, 26 Aug 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30	$199
4D	BANGKOK Dep. July 14 & 28 Via Thai Airways	$179
6D	BANGKOK+PATTAYA FULLBOARD Via Kuwait Air Dep.: July 16, 23, 30 Aug 6, 13, 20 & 27	$199
6D	ANGKOR WAT+BANGKOK FULLBOARD Dep.: July 21 & 28	$456
6D	BEIJING+SHANGHAI Dep. July 19, 26 Aug 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30	$369
8D	BEIJING+SHANGHAI FULLBOARD Dep. July 16, 19, 23, 26 & 30 Aug 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27 & 30	$456
8D	XIAN+BEIJING+SHANGHAI FULLBOARD Dep.: July 16, 23 & 30 Aug 6, 13, 20 & 27	$498
11D	MONGOLIA+BEIJING+SHANGHAI FULLBOARD Dep. July 23 & 30 Aug 6, 13, 20 & 27	$567
5D	SHANGHAI+SHENZHEN Dep. July 15,22,29 Aug 5,12,19 & 26	$288
6D	BEIJING W/ GREATWALL + SHENZHEN Dep: July 19, 26 Aug 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30	$348
8D	JAPAN (FUJI MT.+DISNEY SEA+OSAKA+UNIVERSAL STUDIOS+KYOTO+NAGOYA+AICHI EXPO '05 4 STAR HOTEL FULLBOARD Dep July 20 Aug 17, Sep. 14	$1,888

•MAKATI: 892-8631 to 36/892-4704 to 05/892-4472 •MALATE: 522-1021 to 22 •JUAN LUNA: 243-8383 to 84 •BINONDO: 247-1456 to 57 •SAMPALOC: 740-3687 / 416-5371 •STA. CRUZ 783-4254 / 711-6776 •Q.C.: 434-3879 / 924-1957 •SAN JUAN: 722-0514 / 700-2814 MANDALUYONG: 747-3075to78 •ORTIGAS CTR. 633-6588 / 634-6388 •CEBU: 231-6693 / 231-6935 •BACOLOD: 434-7244/709-0291 •DUMAGUETE: 2253914 / 225-7280 •DAVAO: 300-9260/300-9268 •Lorie: 0928-6138323 •Ro[illegible] 0917

OPEN THE GATE . . . AT YOUR COMMAND

- Swinging Gate
- Sliding Gate
- Access Barrier (Boom Gate)
- Overhead Garage Door

Residential, Commercial & Industrial Models
CONVENIENCE AND SECURITY AT YOUR FINGERTIPS
From the Authority in Gate Automation
MONTAJ TECHNO PRODUCTS INC.
PBD Bldg. # 27 Don Alejandro Roces Ave., Q. C.
Tel: 374-2448, 411-7300, 411-8796
Pampanga. (045)860-4478
Davao : 0917-7010540

O.B./NURSING KIT AND ACCESSORIES

DURABLE - COMPLETE - AFFORDABLE
Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tels. 631-1715; 631-9355; 637-9504 Fax (632) 631-7869
E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

Pasig (02) 631-1715	Manila City (02) 711-8374	Iloilo City (033) 320-1413	Pampanga (045) 961-7802
Cebu City (032) 254-2367	Davao City (082) 222-4404	Lipa City (043) 757-2051	Pangasinan (075) 568-7300

Available at mercury drug Stores Nationwide

North Korea says it will return to 6-way nuke talks

SEOUL—Following a 13-month hiatus in negotiations, North Korea said Sunday it would "do its utmost" to achieve progress at a fresh round of six-way talks later this month aimed at ending its nuclear weapons drive.

The pledge by the North's foreign ministry followed the Stalinist state's announcement Saturday that it would return to talks with the United States, South Korea, China, Japan and Russia in the week beginning July 25.

"The resumption of the talks itself is important, but the most essential thing is for the talks to have an in-depth discussion on ways of denuclearizing the Korean peninsula to make substantial progress in the talks," a ministry spokesperson told the official Korean Central News Agency.

"The DPRK (North Korea) will do its utmost for it."

The spokesperson put a positive spin on the six-way talks, citing success in a meeting between US and North Korean chief nuclear negotiators in Beijing Saturday which led to an agreement to resume the dialogue process.

"The outcome of the DPRK-US contact clearly proves that it is possible to settle any problem when the parties concerned directly come out to solve it," he said.

North Korea had boycotted the talks since a third round in June 2004, but last month North Korean leader Kim Jong-Il told a South Korean envoy that his country would return to the talks as early as July.

Koh Yu-Hwan, a North Korea expert and professor at Dongguk University in Seoul, said he expected positive developments at the upcoming round of talks.

"As North Korea's supreme leader has thrown himself into the issue this time, producing no tangible results at the new round of talks would trouble his leadership," Koh said.

"Given the North's ruling nature, it would be a huge burden at home to show that their leader could fail," he said, referring to the leadership cult Kim has cultivated.

The North's spokesperson praised all dialogue partners, except Japan, for making efforts to jump-start the six-way talks. "But Japan has done nothing for it," he added.

The spokesperson repeated that North Korea wants the Korean peninsula to be nuclear-free through peaceful dialogue.

"As the DPRK repeatedly clarified, it is the ultimate goal of the DPRK to denuclearize the Korean Peninsula and it is its consistent stand to attain the goal through dialogue and negotiations," he said.

The nuclear standoff flared in October 2002 when Washington accused Pyongyang of operating a nuclear weapons program based on enriched uranium in violation of a 1994 agreement.

On Feb. 10 this year, North Korea announced it had nuclear weapons.

North Korea had walked away from the six-party process after rejecting a US-led, aid-for-disarmament proposal that required Pyongyang to give an upfront pledge to dismantle all its nuclear programs before receiving any energy and other assistance.

Pyongyang instead wanted a step-by-step approach to weaning itself off its nuclear program, fearing it could come under attack by the United States if it gave up its nuclear option. *AFP*

Luxembourg heads to polls over EU charter

LUXEMBOURG—Luxembourg voters were going to the polls Sunday over the EU's constitution in what has shaped up into a tight race that could revive the moribund charter or put another nail in its coffin.

The vote, the first referendum on the draft charter since the French and Dutch turned it down a little over a month ago, will also decide the political fate of Prime Minister Jean-Calude Juncker, who has promised to resign if Luxembourg also shoots it down.

The polls opened at 8 a.m. and were to close at 2 p.m. but results are not expected until several hours later in the mid afternoon.

The country, which is traditionally staunchly pro-EU and which just finished its six-month presidency of the 25-nation bloc, is braced for a tight vote after support for the constitution slumped in recent months, especially after the French and Dutch votes.

The referendum comes as the political crisis that engulfed the European Union following French and Dutch voters' rejection has become overshadowed by the deadly terror attacks in London's transport system on Thursday.

EU leaders declared a "period of reflection" last month to try to figure out what to do with the constitution after its rejection by the French and Dutch, leaving individual countries the option to push ahead with the ratification process.

Although a "yes" vote from the Grand Duchy's 223,000 registered voters would have little more effect than providing a sign of support for the beleaguered constitution in trying times, a "no" vote could sound its death knell.

Juncker, who after 11 years in power is Europe's longest serving head of government, has staked his considerable popularity and his job on the line in the vote, promising to quit only a year into his current term.

Speaking at his final campaign meeting on Friday, Juncker said there was no guarantee of a "yes" vote although he hoped that his country would give a new breath of life to the ailing constitution, of which he was a tireless supporter during Luxembourg's recent EU presidency. *AFP*

Suicide bombings kill 28 in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq—Suicide bombings struck Iraq on Sunday, killing at least 28 and wounding dozens more in three attacks on an army recruiting center, a police convoy and civilians, authorities said.

The attacks pushed the death count to c 1,500 people killed in violence since April 3, when Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari announced his Shiite- and Kurd-dominated government in a country under attack from an insurgency led by Iraq's Sunni Arab minority.

In the deadliest blast Sunday, a man strapped with explosives blew himself up at a west Baghdad airfield now used as a military recruiting center, police said. Early casualty reports varied, with a hospital official saying at least 21 died while a Defense Ministry employee reported up to 25 killed.

'Favorite' target

The explosion occurred just before 9 a.m. at the recruiting center, which had been hit several times before by suicide attackers. About 400 would-be recruits jammed the gate before the bomber detonated himself, police Sgt. Ali Hussein said.

Yarmouk Hospital received 21 bodies and 41 people wounded from the attack, emergency room Dr. Muhanad Jawad said. Hospital officials didn't rule out that other victims might have been taken elsewhere.

A Defense Ministry employee, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to speak with the media, reported 25 dead and 25 wounded. He said he was citing figures from the ministry's operations room.

Separately, a suicide car bomber rammed into a police convoy near the northern city of Mosul, killing four policemen and wounding three, police said. The convoy was carrying Brig. Gen. Salim Salih Meshaal, who escaped injury.

In a third attack, a suicide car bomb exploded in Kirkuk, killing at least three civilians and wounding 16 more, police said. The attack occurred on a highway near a hospital and municipal building.

The bomber used a Mercedes Benz and the target appeared to be civilians because there were no military or police convoys nearby, authorities said.

Most of the casualties were people headed to Kirkuk General Hospital, police said. Three of the wounded were hospital employees.

The force of the blast toppled a few trees and shattered several windows in surrounding buildings.

Relations with Egypt

US troops carried out a controlled explosion on a parked car rigged with a bomb less than 100 m away from the first blast in Kirkuk. The second car was intended to cause more casualties as security forces arrived at the scene, police said.

Other violence overnight and into Sunday morning killed at least five others in Iraq, including a police colonel shot in Baghdad, two other policeman killed in the capital, a security official in Kirkuk and a civilian in Baghdad.

The prime minister, meanwhile, held a news conference to salve relations with Egypt following comments made by Iraq's government spokesperson that top Egyptian diplomat Ihab al-Sherif was likely on his way to meet with insurgents when he was abducted last week. It has also been reported that al-Sherif was kidnapped while alone buying a newspaper in Baghdad a week ago.

Al-Qaida in Iraq later claimed in a Web posting that it killed him.

"I don't have any information that the late Ihab al-Sherif has conducted a dialogue or was involved in any dialogue or any meeting," al-Jaafari said. "If what's being reported about an official comment is related to me, then I'm categorically denying that."

On Saturday, Egypt had demanded an explanation from Iraq.

Al-Sherif's abduction and attacks against Pakistani and Bahraini envoys have sent shockwaves through the diplomatic community in Iraq and raised concerns about a possible exodus of diplomats, especially Arab delegations. But the king of neighboring Jordan said the country would not bow to fears and would send its ambassador to Iraq soon. *AP*

COPIERS Sales/Rentals
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
Also Available : LIQUID COPIERS
P15,000. ONLY POWDER TYPE FT 3320, 15 CPM
BRAND NEW CANON IR 1210 BEST FOR BUS. P 39,950. ONLY
P20,000. ONLY BRAND NEW CANON FC 200 FOR PERSONAL USE P15,000. ONLY
RECON RICOH FT 3813 BEST FOR BUSINESS
PARTS & SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR MOST COPIER BRANDS.
COPYTRADE®
Copytrade Bldg. 550 MF Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Beside Nat'l Univ.)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56 781-3472 • 749-8216
www.copytrade.com.ph
• RINGBINDERS / LAMINATORS CUTTERS/BLUEPRINT/RISO
• FAX MACHINES, ETC.
• ACCEPT COPIER RENTALS FOR SHORT EVENTS
• BUY/TRADE-IN OLD COPIERS

SPECIAL PROMO!!!
P15,300
[Brand New] PANASONIC MAIN SYSTEM
• 3 Lines 8 Locals
• 12 Lines 48 Locals
• 500 Locals Expandable
Authorized sub-dealer Panasonic PABX
Authorized sub-dealer intel Communication Corp.
316 Aurelio Bldg 1, 9th Ave Caloocan City
363-1083 • 364-8277
FREE DEMO

CURE BAD BREATH NOW
Don't be a foul mouth. Eliminate bad breath and related problem of *sour/bitter tastes, dry mouth, thick pasty saliva, post nasal drip, phlegm in throat, white coating in tongue with*
THERABREATH KIT
Free use of Halimeter to detect the source of bacteria and monitoring bad breath condition
Call: 0915-4309207
0917-8511049

BREAKTHROUGH IN CANCER CURE!
A herbal extract from nata de coco tested effective against cancer diseases at UP Institute of Biology
Contact: Sir Ton Agustin for more information.
Cell numbers: 09209060992, 09209100806

TRAVEL PLAZA INCORPORATED IATA

PROMO TICKETS		INT'L PACKAGE	
HONGKONG	$207	5D4N HKG+SHENZHEN	$ 169
SINGAPORE	$187	3D2N HKG+SHENZHEN	$ 128
BANGKOK	$188	MALAYSIA PKG	$ 295
TAIPEI	$240	BANGKOK PKG	$ 178
JAPAN	$350	SINGAPORE PKG	$ 260
KUALA LUMPUR	$255	XIAMEN PKG	$ 233
SYDNEY/MELBOURNE	$380	SAIGON PKG	$ 318
BRISBANE/PERTH	$380	SHANGHAI PKG	$ 446
AUKLAND	$610	HOLYLAND PKG	$ 1681
LOS ANGELES	$609	DISNEYLAND/HKG+SZN	$ 258
SAN FRANCISCO	$760		
HONOLULU	$610		
NEWARK	$709		
EUROPE	$710		
DOMESTIC PACKAGE			
BOHOL PKG	P 5265		
BORACAY PKG	P 6635		
DAVAO PKG	P 6310		
CEBU PKG	P 3690		
PALAWAN PKG	P 5580		
DAKAK PKG	P 7115		

(ALL PACKAGES EXCLUDING TAXES)
Other INTERNATIONAL and DOMESTIC TICKETS/PACKAGES are available. We also offer PASSPORTING/VISA ASSISTANCE & other documentation needs
1089 Pablo Ocampo Street, Malate, Manila
Tel.: 524-1405 / 524-0987 / 524-1477
0922-8044156 / 0919-5321555 JO/PAUL

VIPER AUTOGATE
Converts your gate to remote-controlled!
Swing P35,000
Sliding P45,000
Free Installation!
Call 8866696, 8163798, 6356815
Available @ MC Home Depot-Makati, Ortigas & Fort Bonifacio

idec® AIRCONDITION
Split Type Aircon
1hp P16,500
1.5hp P18,500 2hp P25,000
2.5hp P30,000
Free Installation!
Call 8866696/7880221
Available at MC Home Depot -Makati, Fort Bonifacio & Ortigas

SCUBA STOP DIVE SHOP
SALE... COMPLETE REGULATOR and BOUYANCY COMPENSATOR

MARES:	Vector 1000/V16 Reg Proton Metal	Only Php 65,600.00 & FREE Mares Wetsuit
APEKS:	Aquatec BC/ ATX 200 Reg	Only Php 47,337.00 & FREE Orca Wetsuit
SCUBAPRO	Knight Hawk BC/MK 25 X650	Only Php 102,285.00 & FREE Scubapro Wetsuit
IST	Saturn BC/ R10 Reg	Only Php 27,309.75 & FREE IST Wetsuit

SALE ENDS JULY 30, 2005
SCUBA STOP DIVE SHOP
1047 Metropolitan Ave. Makati City
tel: 895-4531 fax: 890-4544 email:gordon@pworld.net.ph

SKYNET TRAVEL CORPORATION IATA PTAA
We are open on Sundays from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm
WE ALSO OFFER OTHER DESTINATIONS LO. TOURS PASSPORT, DOCUMENTATION & VISA ASSISTANCE
G/F & 2/F TSE and Sons Bldg. 1743 A. Mabini St. Malate Tel. Nos. 521-8992 • 521-7406 • 400-0509 • 400-0510 521-9008 • 521-7606 • 522-1360 • 525-4725 • 526-6082
Fax No.: 526-6364 • Mobile No.: (0921) 445-1778
Email: stc@skynettravelcorp.com or skynettravel@amadeusph.com
BOOKING OFFICES: Novaliches: 937-5648 • Cainta: 284-2097 • Cavite: (046) 417-2707 • Cebu: (032) 254-0101 • Iloilo: (033) 5089464 Legaspi: (052) 480-5293 • Ozamis: (088) 5211555 • Tacloban: (053) 325-8254
1N HKG/1N SHZN 3D/2N (JULY 15 DEP) $88
VIA AIR ASIA: KOTAKINABALU 3D-2N $128 | KUALA+GENTING HIGHLANDS 4D 3N $228
VIA JET ★: SIN 3D/2N $195
VISIT HKG DISNEYLAND: WITH DISNEY 5 HOLLYWOOD HOTEL AND PARK TICKET $478 3D 2N
SUPERSTAR VIRGO CRUISE: MALACCA PORT KLANG CRUISE 3D/2N $525; PENANG PHUKET CRUISE 4D/3N $615
LIMITED SEATS/ROOMS ONLY
WORLD YOUTH DAY AUG 14-21 $2318

BANGKOK 4D/3N	$198	SIN+MALAYSIA 6D/5N	$375
HKG FREE AND EASY 3D.2N	$240	SHANGHAI 4D/3N	$385
BANGKOK+PATTAYA 4D/3N	$255	BALI+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N	$389
BRUNEI 3D/2N	$275	SEOUL+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N	$568
BANGKOK+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N	$288	SYDNEY 4D/3N	$584
3N BKK+1N BRUNEI	$295	HAWAII 4D/3N	$719
SIN+MALAYSIA+INDONESIA 4D/3N	$295	US WEST COAST TOUR 6D/5N	$1019
KUALA LUMPUR 3D/2N	$299	VANCOUVER TOUR 4D/3N	$1269
XIAMEN 3D/2N	$299	TORONTO TOUR 4D/3N	$1319
SAIGON 3D/2N	$313	AFRICAN TOUR	$1558
SHENZHEN+BEIJING +SHANGHAI DAYTOUR 6D 5N	$329	HOLY LAND 10D/9N	$1590
TAIPEI 3D/2N	$329	MEXICO+ACAPULCO 7D/6N	$1795
SIN+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N	$335	EUROPEAN TOUR 11D/10D	$1968
GUAM 3D/2N	$348		
SAIPAN 3D/2N	$349	PANAMA/COSTA RICA/ MEXICO ACAPULCO 13D/12N	$4855

Royal Tours

3N BANGKOK	$195
1N HONGKONG+1N SHENZHEN	$242
2N HONGKONG WITH COMPULSORY TOURS	$243
2N HONGKONG NO COMPULSORY TOURS	$249
2N HONGKONG+1N SHENZHEN	$268
2N SINGAPORE	$293
2N HONGKONG+1N SHENZHEN+OCEAN PARK	$300

Royal Vacation Holiday Travel & Tours
523 Remedios Street, Malate, Manila
Tel. nos.: 524-9971 / 524-9987 / 521-6727 / 521-3288 Fax no.: 521-3288

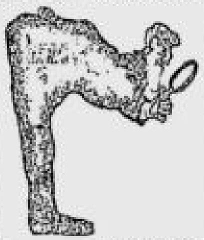
DOLJUNTS International Travel & Tours
Suite 1032, City & Land Mega Plaza, Tower, ADB Avenue cor. Garnet Road Otigas Commercial Center, Pasig City.
Tel Nos: 687-2808, 687-2984, 687-2818, 687-2739, 914-0398 to 99
Fax No.: 687-2808 Cell: 0920-7893648, 0919-6826025; 0927-9154590 E-mail: doljunts_travel @yahoo.com

PROMO PACKAGES			
HONGKONG+SHENZHEN	$123	SIN+KUALA LUMPUR	$365
HONGKONG+COMPULSORY TOUR	$143	KUALA LUMPUR	$295
HONGKONG (FREE & EASY)	$238	BALI	$365
SHENZHEN+HKG+BKK	$298	SAIGON	$299
SHENZHEN+SHANGHAI	$298	GUAM	$328
BANGKOK	$178	AUSTRALIA	$548
BANGKOK+PATTAYA	$250	CANADIAN ROCKIES	$388
BANGKOK+BRUNEI	$295	EAST COAST W/ CANADA	$495
SINGAPORE	$238	HOLYLAND TOUR	$1528
SIN+MAL+INDO	$295	ALASKA CRUISE	$1609
BUDGET FARES			
LAX or HONOLULU	$609	NEW ZEALAND	$499
SAN FRANCISCO	$768	BANGKOK	$173
NEWARK	$709	JAPAN	$398
SYD/MEL/ADL/BNE	$388	SINGAPORE	$195
LON or PAR or ROME	$718	HONGKONG	$205

FIRST TIME IMMIGRANT/CONTRACT WORKERS AT LOW PRICES ARE AVAILABLE

LOCAL TOURS			
SUBIC (SAFARI TOUR)	P799	BORACAY	P6735
CORREGIDOR	P1375	BOHOL	P5365
PUERTO GALERA	P1900	DAVAO	P6315
CEBU	P4380	BACOLOD	P5306
PALAWAN	P5580	BANAUE+SAGADA	P5093

COPYSTAR OFFICE AUTOMATION
Introducing CLEAR POWDER COPIER
RECONDITIONED
Canon IC-MF 3112
RICOH FT 4015 Reducer/Enlarger w/ A3 size For only P20,000
RICOH FT 3013 For only P15,000
Brand new Multifunction Copier
ALSO AVAILABLE : LAMINATOR, FAX MACHINE & RING BINDER
SALES: 8997104 • 8997101 to 03 8997045 • 8997075 to 78 • 8997023
MAIN OFFICE: COPYSTAR Bldg. 948 J. P. Rizal Ave., near cor. Makati Ave., Makati City • Fax: 895-7802
CEBU OFFICE: 178 Sansiangko St., Cebu City • Tel. Nos.: (032) 255-0504 • (032) 256-3368 to 69
PAMPANGA: Mc Arthur Highway, Dolores, City of San Fernando Tel. Nos.: (045) 963-5055 • (045) 860-0383



Where you find the best.
JOB Market ONLINE
VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com

BEST
Quality. Variety. Affordability. After-Sales Service.
Car Washer/ Multi-Purpose Cleaner
Commando 707
• 100 BAR/1500 PSI • 2.5 HP
P3,900 ONE SET
FREE DELIVERY within Metro Manila
With AFTER SALES SERVICE
Major Credit Cards Accepted. Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.
Exclusively Distributed by: CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INCORPORATED
MAIN OFFICE: 1851 M. OROSA ST., MALATE, MLA.
Tel. Nos.: 5244328 • 5240529 • 5245290
QUEZON CITY BRANCH: 646 QUEZON AVE. Tel. 7490581 • 7493709

Victor SELECTIVE RACKS
Selective Rack designed with the up-to-date Engineering Technology. This system is the best for storing and retrieving of different products in the same bay of pallet stored space.
RAVENDO Platform Trucks from DENMARK
• 500 Kg. Load Capacity
• Heavy Duty 8" Rubber Wheels
• Simple yet Sturdy Industrial Design
LOGITRANS PALLET TRUCKS
2, 2.5 & 3 Tons Load
Low & Standard Profile
Wide & Narrow Forks
HYDRAULIC STACKERS
Lift Heights Available:
1,600 MM / 2,450 MM
2,850 MM / 3,300 MM
1 Metric Ton Max Load
Electric & Manual Models
Supermarket Shelves & Carts
MG 200Z
20, 60, 80-150 Liter Customer Trolley
Bright Zinc plated
Clear Lacquered
VICTOR HARDWARE [illegible] Araneta Ave., Quezon City, Philippines Tel.: (632) 743-[illegible] Fax: [illegible]
E-mail: victorhardware@[illegible]

Innovation System
Lease to Own Unit
Php2,000/mo.
3 Tel. lines/8 locals combination to 8 Tel. lines/20 locals combination
We also offer large system;
For Hotels, Call Centers, Banks, Hospitals, Universities, Offices, Municipalities and more
EVER TEL
715-8114 411-2160
"Your Business Communication Solution"

China Panorama

B1	Beijing 4 Days
H1	Shanghai 4 Days
H2-3	Shanghai, Hangzhou, Suzhou 5 - 6 Days
C1B6	Beijing, Shanghai 6 Days
C1A	Beijing, Xian, Guilin 6 - 8 Days
C1B	Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, Guilin 6 - 9 Days
C1C	Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, Guilin 6 - 10 Days
C2	Hangzhou, Shanghai, Beijing, Xian, Guilin 7 - 11 Days
D1-4	Mount Putuo 4 Days

Special Tours

		Departure date:
A1	Yantze River (Three Gorges) Cruise Tour 5 Days	7/31, 8/21
C4A-B	Southwest China Scenic Tour 6 - 9 Days	7/29, 8/26
C4T	Shangri-la, Tibet 8 Days	8/20
C8A	Jiuzhaigou National Park 6 Days	8/02, 8/23
C10C	Qinghai, Ningxia, Inner-Mongolia 10 Days	8/06, 8/27

Silk Road | Central China Cultural Tours | Zhang Jia Jie National Forest Park and more.....
• Accept hotel and air ticket booking throughout China
For more details pls. contact your nearest travel agency or . . .
PANDA TRAVEL SERVICE INC.
479 - 481 Sto. Cristo Street, Binondo, Manila
Tels.: 242-2586 Trunk line Fax : 242-2650 ; 242-2652
http://www.pandatour.com DO1153-00
IATA PTAA

PRINT PROFIT
START A PRINTSHOP BUSINESS NOW!
START-UP CAPITAL ₱30T
Inclusive of Training and Equipments
FOR RESERVATION
CALL: (02) 735-0452 • (02) 488-2393 • (02) 488-8005
0919-4875363 • 0918-4982995 • 0919-8105019

TOP QUALITY
Water Refilling Station Systems and Replacement Parts
WATERCARE MARKETING, PHILIPPINES
3933 L. Roces Cor. Santol St., Sampaloc, Manila, Philippines 1008
Tel. #: (632) 716-6998 (trunkline)
Wholesale: 716-8080 (bulk orders only)
Industrial Dept. (632) 716-0880
Fax. #: (632) 716-0903
E-mail: watercare@ph.inter.net
Also Available At:
• SM Megamall, 5/F Bldg. A Tel. #: 633-2510
• SM City Fairview, LGF Tel. #: 417-6622
• SM City Southmall, UGF Tel. #: 806-9393
• SM City Cebu, LGF Tel. #: (032) 233-0252
• MC Home Ortigas Tel. #: 638-5201
• MC Home Fort Bonifacio Tel. # 815-4270
WaterCare® MARKETING PHILIPPINES
Bringing the World's Best in Water Treatment to the Filipino People
AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR & IMPORTER OF.
Pentek Filter Cartridges & Housings, Structural Tanks, Fleck Control Valves, GE Osmonics, FSI Filterbags, Badgermeter, R-can Sterilight UV, Hydranautics Membranes, Rusco, & many others
"Quality Water, Quality Life"

Victims, mourners gather for Srebrenica memorial

SREBRENICA, Bosnia—The living and the dead were gathering in the eastern Bosnia town of Srebrenica on Sunday to commemorate the massacre of 8,000 Bosnian Muslims by Serb forces 10 years ago.

Up to 50,000 mourners were expected to attend the memorial ceremony on Monday for Europe's worst massacre since World War II, which will include the burial of hundreds of victims identified by painstaking DNA analysis over the years.

Bosnian Serb troops, under the command of Gen. Ratko Mladic and the rebel state's "president," Radovan Karadzic, executed thousands of Muslim men and boys in the final months of the war which began in 1992 and ended in 1995.

The two leaders, both indicted for genocide by the United Nations tribunal in The Hague, remain at large, to the anger of Bosnians and the embarrassment of Western powers who intervened belatedly to stop the war which claimed 200,000 lives.

The massacre aimed to ensure there were no Muslims to claim back Serb-occupied land or homes. Srebrenica today is a dismal, shattered town in the "Republika Srpska" or Serb Republic half of Bosnia, its Muslim population a fraction of the prewar years.

Hundred of Muslims who escaped when the United Nations "safe area" was overrun by Mladic forces in early July 1995 retraced their long trek to safety over the weekend, remembering the Serb mortar and sniper fire that cut many of them down.

They were due to attend Monday's ceremony and the burial of 610 victims whose coffins were driven through the capital, Sarajevo, on Saturday before solemn crowds lining the streets.

Some 2,000 victims from mass graves have been reburied but 7,000 body bags have still to be analyzed and 20 more mass graves to be exhumed. A newly-discovered grave in the process of being exhumed was to be displayed on Monday.

Such incontrovertible evidence has little impact on those Serbs who still insist the killing was simply a hard fact of war, or a justifiable act of revenge, or who deny the massacre outright.

Hardline Serbian nationalists gathered in Belgrade on Saturday to commemorate Serb victims of all the Yugoslav wars in a defiant gesture ahead of the anniversary of Srebrenica.

A BOSNIAN Muslim woman cries as 610 coffins with the remains of victims of the Srebrenica massacre arrive in Potocari July 9. REUTERS

Led by the ultranationalist Radical Party and the top ranks of the Orthodox Christian church, they packed a hall on the banks of the Sava river to listen to patriotic speeches and watch a documentary of Serb suffering in the wars.

Seated in the two front rows were well-known defenders of Karadzic and Mladic as well as supporters of Slobodan Milosevic, the former Serb leader now on trial for genocide in The Hague.

The rally listened to a message from party leader Vojislav Seselj, who is in detention in The Hague awaiting trial on war crimes charges and is forbidden from engaging in politics.

Radical Party official Aleksandar Vucic told the Belgrade tabloid Srpski Nacional the film showed "the real victims." "We are in an absurd situation where no one talks about crimes against Serbs," he said, complaining that Srebrenica was being recalled on television "day in and day out."

The documentary, entitled "The Truth," was a compilation of old images, much of it familiar state propaganda from the Milosevic era. Richard Wagner's "Ride of the Valkyries" and Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana" provided a dramatic musical background.

Broadcast live by three television channels, the film was a precursor to a memorial Serbs plan to stage near Srebrenica next Tuesday marking 3,000 deaths between 1992 and 1995.

The Radical Party, Serbia's strongest with 30 percent support, disputes the finding of independent historians that Serb forces were responsible for the majority of civilian deaths and atrocities in the wars in Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo between 1991 and 1999. Some deny the Srebrenica massacre even took place. *Reuters*

ANG MAGKABABAYAN SA KABAYAN
SENYONG MASIGASIG
Si Senyong, isang matagumpay na negosyante na madalas lumuwas ng Maynila. At palagi, sa Kabayan Hotel siya tumutuloy.
POLDING KASIPAGAN
Si Polding, isang OFW, kapag umuwi ng Pilipinas, Kabayan Hotel din ang tuloy kasama ang kanyang asawa at mga anak.
Sa tuwing tumutuloy si Senyong Masigasig sa Kabayan Hotel, sinusundo siya ng "Pinoy Van".
Asikasong-asikaso ako ah. Ang safe ng feeling
Very Important Pinoy po kayo sa amin. Kaya't ang lahat ng pag-aasikaso ay ginagawa namin
At sa Kabayan Hotel ang pakiramdam mo, may kababayan ka.
Welcome back, bay! Parehas gihapon sing dati?
Bay!
'Yan ang alagang Kabayan. Naiintindihan namin ang inyong pangangailangan. Kabisado namin ang inyong mga gusto.
Tumuloy si Senyong sa SUPERIOR ROOM na may queen-sized bed at single bed.
Tamang-tama lang ang laki, maaliwalas at kumpleto sa aking pangangailangan. At higit sa lahat, pribado at ligtas.
Lingid sa kaalaman ni Senyong, ang kababayan niyang si Polding ay umuwi galing Saudi at nasa FAMILY ROOM kasama ng kanyang pamilya.
Kasyang-kasya pala tayo dito. Hindi gaya sa ibang hotel, nagsi-siksikan tayong apat.
Maayos at malinis kahit saang sulok
Sa PINOY STAR CAFE nagkatagpo sina Senyong at Polding.
Da bes ito p're!
'Pag nasimulan, ang hirap tantanan. Lalo na ang kare-kare at pansit nila.
Mura na, marami pa
Bukod sa serbisyo, mahalaga rin ang magandang lokasyon. At diyan lalong panalo ang Kabayan Hotel.
Katabi rin ng mall at bangko. Malapit pa sa DFA, POEA, OWWA at iba pang opisina ng gobyerno.
Malapit sa airport, MRT, LRT at bus stations
HOTEL SERVICES
Nagbibigay pa sila ng schedule ng mga bangko, biyahe ng LRT at MRT, city guide at iba po. Kumpleto talaga
Malinis na, safe pa. SULIT TALAGA!
NEW YORK ST.
EDSA
AURORA BLVD.
CUBAO
ROXAS BLVD.
TAFT AVE.
TRAMO
PASAY

KABAYAN HOTEL
CUBAO * PASAY
Laging binabalikan,
mahirap iwanan.

Kabayan Hotel-Pasay 2878 Zamora Street corner EDSA Rotonda. (before the MRT/LRT EDSA Station). Pasay City
Reservation Hotline: (632)891-7878 • Telephone: (632)891-7879 • Cellphone: +63916-5742978
Kabayan Hotel-Cubao 12 St. Mary Street, corner Aurora Blvd. (behind Diamond Theater) Cubao, Quezon City Telephone: (632)911-7091 to 95 • Cellphone: +63921-3514203
Email: info@kabayanhotel.com.ph • Website: www.kabayanhotel.com.ph
Owned and managed by Legend Hotels International Corp.

MAY REVOLUTIONARY CYDEX MOLECULES
KAYA WALANG AMOY! TOTAL HYGIENE PROTECTION!
maxi-protection.
maxi alaga.
MADE IN GERMANY
ADULT DIAPERS
ISO9001:1994

Sa Brand X = Palit ng Palit
SA MOLICARE = ABSORBEN-TIPID
DAHIL IT CAN ABSORB FROM SLIGHT TO SEVERE INCONTINENCE OR UP TO 1,450 ML OF LIQUID.
(Dito ka na sa MAS ECONOMICAL!)

Hindi lang yan ang Molicare din ay:

☑ **Mas PRECISE** - May Molicare products para sa slight hanggang severe incontinence!
☑ **Mas SECURE** - May FRONTAL TAPE. Hindi mapupunit maski paulit-ulit buksan!
☑ **Mas CONVENIENT** - Mas malinaw ang wetness indicator para alam mo kung changing time na!
☑ **Mas ABSORBENT** - May HighDry 3-layer SAP core at Anti-odor CyDex molecules!
☑ **Mas RELIABLE** - May waterproof anti leak cuffs kaya no side leaks maski nakatagilid!
☑ **Mas COMFORTABLE** - May extra soft LYCRA threads kaya fit na fit without skin irritations!

Molicare
Adult Diapers

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT MERCURY DRUG STORE
2nd Flr. Glorietta 3 Makati

Also Available:
Molicare Mobile Pull-Up Type

Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tels.: 631-1715 • 631-9355 • 637-9504
Fax: (0632) 631-7869 • E-mail: medcen@info.com.ph

MANILA 711-8374
PASIG 631-1715
LIPA (043) 757-2051
PAMPANGA (045) 961-7892
PANGASINAN (070) 608-7390
CEBU (032) 254-2387
DAVAO (082) 222-4404
ILOILO (033) 320-1413

Available at
mercury drug
Stores Nationwide

Survivor hid under corpses

By Daria Sito-Sucic

ILIJAS, Bosnia—In July 1995, Mevludin Oric lay for hours under a pile of corpses while Bosnian Serb soldiers killed thousands of his fellow Muslims in the fields around Srebrenica.

Ten years after he narrowly escaped Europe's worst massacre in 50 years, he is still waiting to see Bosnian Serb wartime military chief Ratko Mladic put on trial.

"How is it possible they still can't arrest him? Ten years is a long time," Oric said days before the 10th anniversary of the Srebrenica massacre of 8,000 Muslim men and boys on July 11.

He left his village in the UN "safe area" of Srebrenica after the eastern enclave fell to Bosnian Serb hands on July 11.

He was caught by Serb troops two days later and was among 2,500 Muslims taken to a school in the eastern village of Grbavci.

Oric says he saw the notorious Bosnian Serb general at the door of the school gym where the captives were crammed, moments before they were led away to be executed.

"People whispered: look, it's Mladic. There he stood with his bodyguards, looking over the gym, laughing," Oric recalls.

Oric thought Mladic came to arrange the exchange or transfer of prisoners. But after he left, soldiers blindfolded the detainees and started loading them on trucks. They drove them in groups to a nearby field and ordered them to line up.

"Then it was all clear to me. They waited for his order."

"After he left, they started killing," Oric said. He told his cousin to stick with him and hold his hand.

"Just as I said they wouldn't kill us, we heard machine-gun fire and my cousin fell. I also fell although I wasn't shot." *Reuters*

Monster Hurricane Dennis heads for US Gulf Coast

MIAMI—Deadly Hurricane Dennis strengthened into a monster storm capable of causing serious damage as it thundered toward the US Gulf Coast, forecast to hit land later on Sunday somewhere near the Alabama-Florida border.

Dennis, which killed 32 people in a rampage past Haiti and over Cuba before heading into the Gulf of Mexico early on Saturday, was carrying winds of 135 mph by early on Sunday morning and forecasters said it could strengthen further before slamming ashore.

The hurricane was on a track to hit land in an area still recovering from a punishing hit last September by Hurricane Ivan.

Forecasters at the US National Hurricane Center said early on Sunday that Dennis, which intensified as it rolled north over the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico during Saturday, had strengthened into a category 4 hurricane on the five-step Saffir-Simpson scale.

Such storms carry winds of more than 130 mph and a threat of flooding up to six miles inland from [illegible] coastal areas. They are are capable of causing major damage—shredding mobile homes, ripping roofs off some buildings, seriously damaging doors and windows and felling big trees.

"This is going to do a lot of damage before it's all over," Max Mayfield, director of the hurricane center, told CNN late on Saturday.

Authorities in Florida, Alabama and Mississippi urged more than 1.2 million people in vulnerable low-lying areas to leave their homes and many heeded the warning, streaming away in long lines of cars all day Saturday and draining gas stations dry.

Forecasters warned Dennis could bring a storm surge of up to 17 feet above normal tide levels, and rainfall of as much as 12 inches in the area where it makes landfall.

At 1 a.m. EDT on Sunday, the center of Dennis was about 235 miles south of Panama City, the hurricane center said. It was heading northwest at about 14 mph on a track that would bring its eye over land sometime on Sunday afternoon.

"Some additional strengthening is possible before landfall," the center said.

Dennis threatened key oil and natural gas fields in the Gulf of Mexico, where a quarter of US production comes from.

Energy companies pulled hundreds of workers off oil rigs and shut down some crude and natural gas production.

Pensacola, a city where blue tarps still cover some houses whose roofs were damaged by Ivan, became a ghost town as residents fled the approaching storm.

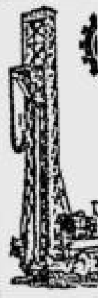
Some people who decided to stay as Dennis approached shuttered their houses with recycled boards bearing the words "Go Away Ivan."

Ivan was one of an unprecedented four hurricanes to hit Florida in the same storm season. Florida officials said some 40,000 homes statewide had not been fixed yet.

"We're scared," said Lee Schoen, 48, a youth services worker who said she was boarding up her waterfront home on Mobile Bay in Alabama and getting out. "We're moving our valuables and things you can't replace and going to my mother-in-law's."

Before heading north through the Gulf, Dennis grazed southern Florida, brushing past the popular tourist island of Key West on the state's southern tip. State officials said 163,000 homes and businesses were without power by Saturday evening.

Reuters



ASIAN DRILLING & PUMPS
Avecilla Ext., BF Resort, Las Piñas City
Tel. Nos.: 871-5867 • 874-0637 • Telefax: 875-2575
SERVICES
- PERCUSSION & ROTARY DRILLING
- WELL REHABILITATION & SUBMERSIBLE PUMP SERVICING
- SELLS SUBMERSIBLE & HOUSEHOLD PUMPS: GRUNDFOS, GOULDS, MYERS, FRANKLIN MOTOR & PRESSURE TANK
- RESIDENTIAL DEEP WELLS 2" & 3" DIA WELL CASING BY 200-600 FEET DEPTH

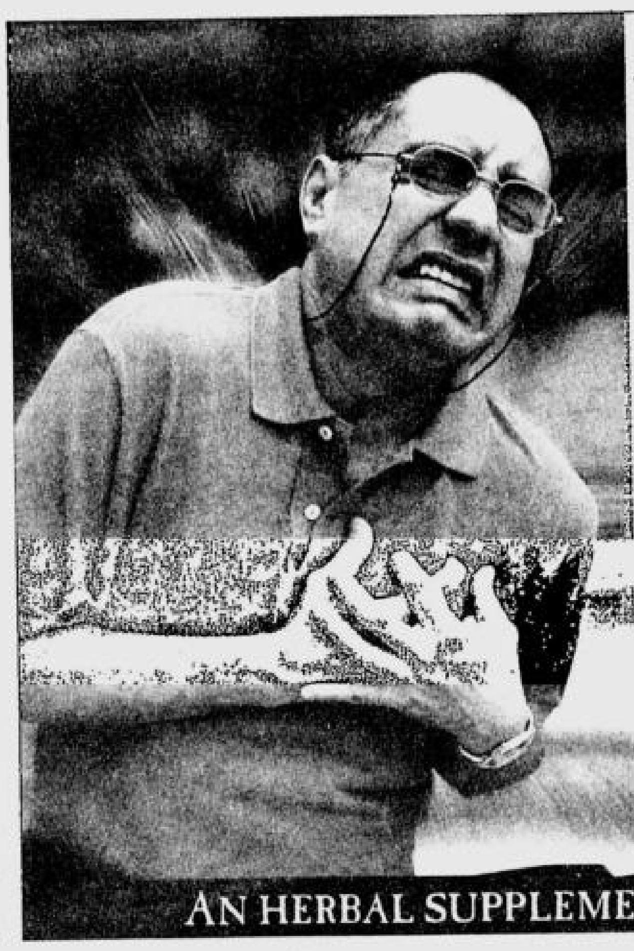
TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS PABX
- Call Transfer
- Music-On-Hold
- Call Privacy
- Intercom

AS LOW AS P8,300
INFINITE SYSTEMS Call for FREE DEMO 892-9073 to 77

Grain Dryer for Sale
2nd hand dryer- Imported unit
Good Condition

WOODEN CONVEYOR
Belt Conveyor
SALE

FURNACE DRYING SYSTEM
Using the dryer without fuel kerosene. to make the HUSK turn to Gold TEL: (02) 6700-5678 (8 Digit)



THERE'S HOPE IN BEATING DIABETES-INDUCED HEART COMPLICATIONS.
COGENT DB+

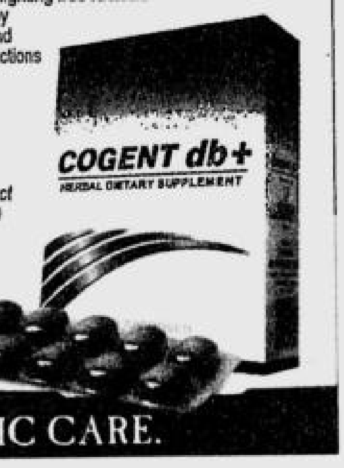
BEWARE! Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death among diabetic patients. Cogent db+, with its nine *Ayurvedic* medicinal herbs, effectively controls and lowers lipid profile, helps reduce arterial plaque, and prevents atherosclerosis. It also normalizes Glycohemoglobin within three months, thereby decreasing the risks associated with diabetic-induced cardiovascular complications. Taking Cogent db+ with your conventional medicine helps provide the following benefits:

- Prevents other diabetic complications such as diabetic foot, gangrene, kidney disease, renal failure, blindness, and nerve damage
- Lowers elevated blood glucose, triglycerides, and cholesterol levels
- Repairs pancreatic tissue damage and enhances tissue response to insulin
- Reverses cell death and hyperglycemia-related tissue damage
- Alleviates Diabetes-induced impotence and loss of libido in males and sexual dysfunction in females
- Serves as a powerful anti-oxidant fighting free radicals
- Boosts the immune system thereby strengthening the body to withstand stress and Diabetes-associated infections
- Sustains energy and promotes general well-being

Recommended by most doctors.

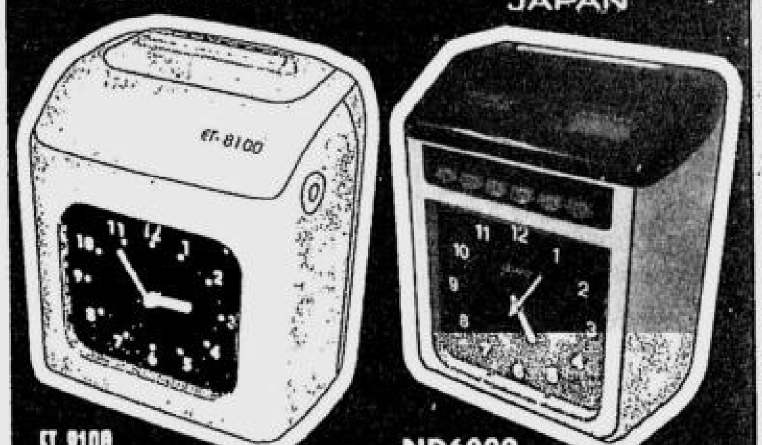
For further information, please contact
Tel nos: 6388573, 6319863,6388379
Website: www.davenben.com

Available at mercury drug stores, and other leading drugstores nationwide.



AN HERBAL SUPPLEMENT FOR DIABETIC CARE.

HEAVY DUTY BUNDY CLOCK
PRECISION® ELECTRONICS
NIDEKA JAPAN



ET-8100
ND6000

National Book Store
AVAILABLE AT THE FF. BRANCHES
ALABANG • ALI MALL • BESTSELLER THE PODIUM • C. RAYMUNDO • COASTAL MALL • CYBER MALL • EVER ROSARIO • FILINVEST • GLORIETTA • GREENBELT • HARRISON PLAZA • MARKET! MARKET! • METROPOINT • NORTHRIDGE PLAZA • RECTO • RIZAL AVENUE • ROBINSONS ORTIGAS • ROBINSONS ERMITA • ROBINSONS PIONEER • SHANGRI-LA PLAZA • SM BICUTAN • SM CENTERPOINT • SM FAIRVIEW • SM MANILA • SM MEGA MALL • SM NORTH EDSA • SM SOUTH MALL • SUPERBRANCH CUBAO • TUTUBAN • SM SUCAT • STA. LUCIA EAST • SUCAT JAKA

BIG Discounts

CEBU PACIFIC
Hotels PLUS

Three's a Treat Promo

- All Cebu Pacific passengers availing of the Hotels Plus Program from July 6 to September 30 2005 are qualified to join the Three's a Treat Promo
- Passengers must book at least 3 nights in any of the participating hotel partners and present his/her boarding pass upon checking-in within 7 days upon arrival to automatically get the 3rd night for FREE
- To avail of the promo passengers must quote the Hotels Plus Three's a Treat Promo when booking through Cebu Pacific's Reservation or directly through any of the participating hotels
- Promo is valid from July 6 to September 30, 2005

*Participating Hotels Plus Partners:

Artina Suites Hotel P1,100 NET Makati (02) 897-4212/ (02) 896-4233
Citadel Inn Makati Quantum P1,199 NET Makati (632) 897-2370
Makati Prime Tower Suites P1,200 NET Makati (632) 750-3010
Orchid Garden Suites Manila P1,500 NET Manila 523-9836/ 523-9860
Hyatt Manila P3,500 NET Pasay (632) 833-1234
The Sugarland Hotel P845 NET Bacolod City (034) 435-2690
Crown Regency Hotels • Suites • Residences P2,000 NET Cebu (032) 341-4586
Plaza Maria Luisa Suites Inn P799 NET Dumaguete City (035) 422-7383
Sarabia Manor Hotel & Convention Center P1,100 NET Iloilo (033) 335-1021
VLA Bohol P750 NET Tagbilaran (038) 411-5334
Roxas President's Inn P899 NET Roxas (036) 621-0208
Country Village Hotel P750 NET Cagayan de Oro City (088) 858-3004
Grand Astoria Hotel P650 NET Zamboanga (062) 991-2510

Other Hotel Plus Partners you can avail of big discounts:
Almont Inland Resort • Apo View Hotel • Astoria Plaza Hotel • Beachcomber • Cebu Midtown Hotel • Grand Regal Hotel • Hotel Fleuris Palawan • Holiday Inn Manila Galleria • Marco Polo Davao • Pan Pacific Hotel • Pearl Manila Hotel • Traders Hotel

CEBU PACIFIC
The new Filipino time.

For bookings, call Manila (02) 6364938 or text "CEB" to 2982 for Globe & Touch Mobile; 386 for Smart, Talk 'N Text & Addict Mobile; and for Sun Cellular, text "CEB" to 2982 or click on the directory of "The Mall" or call our Sales Agent nearest you,

Per DTI NCR-Permit No.1704 Series of 2005

ISSN 0116-2642
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Vol. 20 No. 213

OPINION

Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph **website:** http://www.inq7.net
Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

The Philippine Daily Inquirer, Inc. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4007
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.
•100% soy ink.•

Publisher Isagani Yambot
Editor in Chief Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc
Managing Editor Jose Ma. D. Nolasco
Associate Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday
Associate Editor for Readership Rosario A. Garcellano
News Editor Artemio T. Engracia Jr. • *Chief, News Day Desk* Nilo B. Paurom
Opinion Editor Jorge V. Aruta
National Editor Pergentino B. Bandayrel Jr.
City Editor Gerry Lirio
Senior Desk Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.
Editorial Consultant Amando Doronila
Chief Photographer Ernie U. Sarmiento
Art & Design Director Lynett A. Villariba

Board Chairman Marixi R. Prieto
President Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing Renato R. Reinoso
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services David O. Valdes
VP for Advertising Felipe R. Olarte
AVP for Circulation Gloria P. Lardizabal

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

Seek the middle

EDITORIAL

IT is crucial that we agree on the mode of resolution. If the strategic stalemate continues in the next few days, it is the duty of political players, civic leaders and opinion makers to agree, to compromise, on the method for resolving the crisis. At some point early this week, the issue must be joined.

The strategic stalemate will deepen if the forces calling on President Macapagal-Arroyo to resign continue to fail to draw unmistakable public support, and the President herself continues to enjoy the solid backing of a substantial corps of well-placed allies.

In that scenario, men and women of good will must agree to meet somewhere in the middle, not to give up one side's claim to presumption of innocence or the other side's demand for accountability, not necessarily to forge a solution to the political crisis, but only to design a process for reaching a solution.

That process is all-important; it will be the true test of our political maturity.

Resignation, of course, is a constitutional option, in the same way that impeachment is. But if the President continues to refuse to resign, because she sees the moral arguments for making "the supreme sacrifice" in the absence of any charges as pious blackmail and inherently destabilizing; and the political opposition continues to reject the impeachment alternative, because it has little faith that an inherently political process will serve the ends of justice and sees the length of that process as an economic disincentive—well, then, what do we do?

We must seek a compromise mode of resolving the crisis within constitutional parameters.

In the first place, the appeal of many in civil society that we all must get to the bottom of the allegations of election fraud is, we believe, truly non-negotiable. Whether the method for doing so is through a truth commission or through a Senate blue ribbon hearing, or through some other form, the public must know exactly what went on. To be sure, and if we go by the June 2005 Pulse Asia survey, the great majority of Filipinos already think that the President committed election fraud. But the lack of public outrage may mean that the people are waiting for convincing evidence to confirm what they say they already know.

The silence of the President on this issue, in her last several addresses, is deafening. She must yield on this point, and agree to an independent investigation outside of the impeachment process.

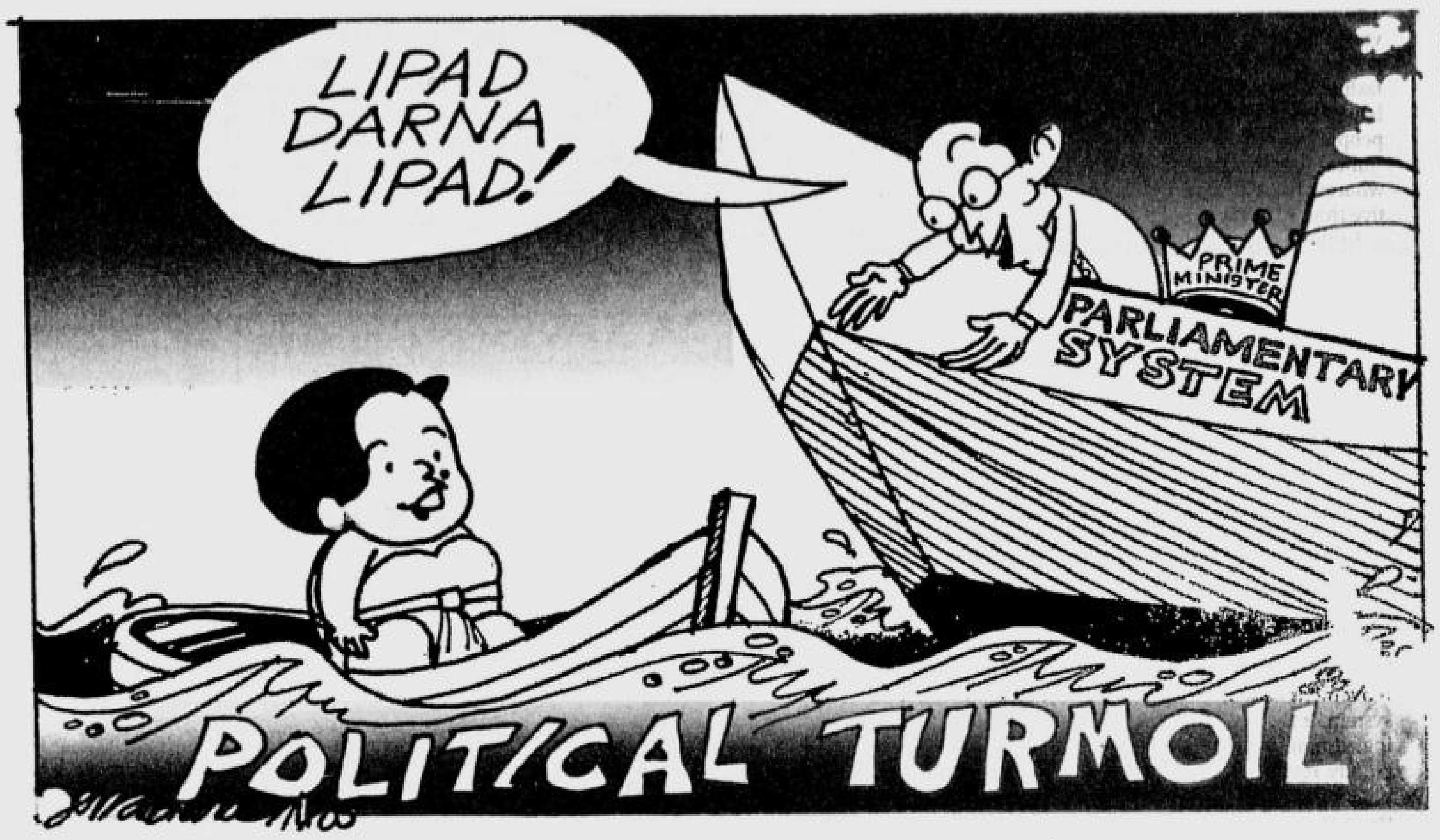
Secondly, the demand—by some in the traditional opposition and by many among the Left—that snap elections be called, must be set aside. The argument that Vice President Noli de Castro's mandate does not exist is specious; that there is a pending poll protest against him does not destroy the presumption of regularity that attended his proclamation. To insist otherwise is to turn the rule of law upside down.

Thirdly, lost in the exchange of position statements and the series of news conferences in the last few days is the remarkable premise underlying both ex-President Fidel Ramos' proposal, that Congress be convened as a constituent assembly and a new government installed in a year's time, and Ms Arroyo's "preemptive" speech on Thursday night, where she said it was time for constitutional change. Both are signaling a willingness to dramatically reduce the President's term.

This seems like a promising option. It penalizes the President for committing "a lapse in judgment" (even short of finding that she was in fact guilty of election fraud) by cutting her term short. It allows the President the possibility of political redemption (the idea behind the business community's proposal to give her six months to one year to prove herself all over again). Not least, it gives all of us the opportunity to jump off the endlessly spinning treadmill of the last 20 years, through reforms in the way we choose our leaders and how we hold them to account.

There will still be many who will balk; how can a traditional politician like the President be the vehicle for real political reform? To which history's answer is: Stranger things have happened.

But let's not lose sight of the main point: To break a strategic stalemate without emptying the army barracks or filling the streets with blood, we may need to practice the politician's principal art, that of compromise.



A change of president in quiet Palace coup

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

FEW people realized it, but a quiet coup d'etat took place in Malacañang last Friday. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is still in Malacañang, but she is no longer the President. She is still called President, but she is no longer the real President. It is Fidel V. Ramos who is the de facto President. He is like a regent, and Gloria is her ward. Or hostage or dummy, depending on how you look at it.

Did you notice that it was FVR, not GMA, who presided over the press conference in Malacañang Friday? He was calling the shots and GMA was quiet, confused, bewitched, bothered and bewildered.

GMA might have gotten a reprieve, but FVR gave her only 10 more months to stay in Malacañang. After which, a new prime minister will take over. That would most likely be (guess who)—FVR.

Yes, FVR's proposal to give GMA—according to him—"a graceful exit" is to convene Congress into a constituent assembly, change the Constitution, change the presidential system of government into parliamentary, have it ratified by the people, hold elections next May; and the new set of officials can assume office in May. All of these done in a matter of 10 months. GMA will be cast away like a rag after being used.

If I were GMA, I would step down now with honor and be a statesman rather than be a dummy and be discarded in less than a year after being used. If I were to step down in 10 months, I might as well do it now and be spared all that aggravation.

With a new Constitution and a new system of government, FVR can run for membership in Parliament in his district in Pangasinan and then run for the position of prime minister.

This has also been the fondest wish of Speaker Jose de Venecia, who has long been working for a shift to a parliamentary system because he can never be elected chief executive in a presidential system. He tried once and ended up in a *kangkong* patch. (As a consolation to JDV, let me add that no speaker in Philippine history has ever been elected president immediately after leaving the House. Several very popular speakers tried to be, but they were all defeated.) But it looks like the prime ministership is being snatched away from him. JDV has long been the Sancho Panza to FVR's Don Quixote, but now it also looks like he is the patsy.

With a new Constitution and a parliamentary government, FVR is no longer barred from running for reelection, which the present Constitution prohibits. He can always run for the Parliament and easily win in his district and, once there, persuade a majority of the MPs to elect him prime minister. The new government may have a ceremonial president as *consuelo de bobo*, but the real power will be held by the prime minister.

Because of the present crisis in our presidential system, we may be stampeded into accepting a parliamentary system as the answer to our woes. But this is a case of the cure being worse than the disease. To use another metaphor, it is like jumping from the frying pan into the fire.

In a parliamentary system, the whole government is run by the party in power. The executive, legislative and judicial departments are all occupied by party members. The chief executive and Cabinet ministers are all members of Parliament, who also will dictate appointees to the Supreme Court. There is no system of checks and balances as in a presidential system.

When you think that the future MPs will be the present congressmen or their relatives, you can see how much more terrible, things would be. We would all be at their mercy.

If you think that the incidence of graft and corruption will diminish, you are wrong. On the contrary, it will become worse. Vote-buying will be in the millions of pesos per vote. Instead of buying the votes of voters at P50 per, the candidate for prime minister will buy the votes of elected MPs. You can imagine the price per vote if the contest is close. Where will the prime minister get the money to buy the expensive MP votes? Where else but from us, the taxpayers. At least in a presidential system, some of that money goes back to the people when their votes are bought. But in a parliamentary system, only the MPs benefit.

Corruption is also rampant in parliamentary systems. Prime ministers of Japan and South Korea were convicted of stealing billions of their nations' money.

Parliamentary systems are successful in some countries because these countries have strong party systems. Their political parties stand for definite ideologies and policies, and politicians don't change parties. Not in the Philippines, where every other politician is a political butterfly flitting from party to party. If we have a parliamentary government, most politicians will jump to the party in power, and there will be few or no opposition politicians to fiscalize the administration. There will be no checks and balances. The party in power will be one very big syndicate, similar to the Mafia, with no Untouchables to stop them. Heaven help us.

Our Constitution and system of government are not perfect (as other systems are also imperfect) but they are still good. Some of our best achievements in history and leaders were children of a presidential system. There is nothing wrong with the system. What is wrong is with the politicians we elect into office.

Manuel Quezon, Sergio Osmeña Sr., Jose P. Laurel, Manuel Roxas Sr., Claro M. Recto, Lorenzo Tañada, Jose W. Diokno, Lorenzo Sumulong, Jovito Salonga, Benigno Aquino Jr. and many other leaders were all bred under the present system. But so were Joseph Estrada, GMA and you-know-who, you say. Well, you can't win them all. You win some, you lose some.

Lunacy

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

WHAT'S with Tabako? All the fumes from those cigars must have turned his brains into mush.

Striding forth into Malacañang toward the end of the Longest Day last Friday, Fidel Ramos promptly declared his loyalty to its resident squatter—to whom everyone had been issuing eviction papers the whole day—and proposed to solve the problem of her illegal occupation of the people's palace by a constitutional change. That monumental exercise in non sequitur made about as much sense as solving the problem of lack of classrooms in this country by holding an architects' or engineers' conference to discuss the aesthetic values of Frank Lloyd Wright's designs. The latter probably makes more sense.

Truly, this country does not end with a bang but with a whimper, not with tragedy but with farce. It makes the Theater of the Absurd sound positively sane. What is Tabako saying? That when a Constitution is violated in the most brazen way possible by the one person tasked to uphold it, the solution is to make another one?

Can anything more grossly violate the Constitution than the President calling up a Comelec commissioner while he is busy counting votes to make sure she gets a lead of a million votes over her rival? Of course, she still says she made the call after the counting was pretty much over, adding lying to cheating, and violating not just the Constitution but the Ten Commandments, not just (wo)man's law but God's. For some reason, whoever wrote her apology did not find any contradiction in the claims that "the election results were already in and the votes had been counted" and "I was anxious to protect my votes," piling one absurdity on top of another."

GMA has violated her vow of office, GMA has lied to the people, GMA has stolen the elections: The proper response to all of the above is to change the Constitution?

What makes Fidel Ramos' proposal even crazier is that it proposes that the same President reform the society while preparing for constitutional change and step down to run for elections in a parliamentary system next year. Is it possible Ramos misses Malacañang so much he wants to come back to it as prime minister that he has been stricken blind about the character of the person he is dealing with? Three years ago, GMA expressly vowed on Rizal's grave she would not run again because she was the source of this country's divisiveness, but she did anyway. Today, amid calls by her own Cabinet officials, the business community, and above all by Corazon Aquino, the one person who helped her get into Malacañang to begin with, she refuses to go but clings tenaciously to power instead. And Ramos imagines that after the same amount of time it took for her to forget her vow about not running again, and after she has gotten back into her comfort zone—however her rule can ever be comfortable—she will willingly give up the presidency to run again.

Graceful exits presuppose grace. She is not Grace, she is Gloria.

Still further, can anything be more lunatic than the notion that the cabal that held a press conference in Malacañang after 10 of their confreres had abandoned ship would be the ones to pluck this country of its rut and send it on the path to progress? Who, Ronnie Puno, Jose de Venecia and Raul Gonzalez? The father of *dagdag-bawas*, the mother of all *trapos*, the child of injustice? Look into their eyes, man, as Susan Roces suggests, and see if the word "reform" can ever issue like a fresh spring from out of their cold hearts. No, look into their eyes, and just see if they aren't dead already.

The wonder is that Puno did not disintegrate like Dracula when exposed to sunlight after going on ANC last Friday fervently talking about law and justice and constitution.

Patricia Sto. Tomas, one of the holdouts, herself scoffed at the resignations, saying, "I think we can get willing and able replacements from among 84 million Filipinos." What has happened to you, after all that talk of fighting corruption and bringing decency to government during the days of Karangalan? Is it possible you cannot see how your logic compels you to ask before anything else why we cannot find a willing and able replacement for a President that has lost her right to rule from among the same horde?

Whether a parliamentary system is good for this country or not is something we can debate till we are blue in the face later on. I personally think it will do more harm than good, and not just because it will give free rein to the ambitions of people who are not likely to get to Malacañang otherwise, like De Venecia. It is also because it will give free rein to the rule of thugs, as was patent in the NPC and Lakas efforts to impeach Hilario Davide by enforcing party line. But like I said, that is a problem for later.

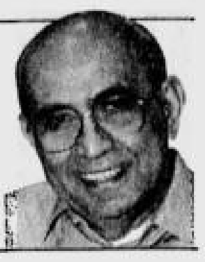
The most ironic thing about it all is that Ramos himself would not be around if the United States had perpetrated the very lunacy he now proposes, which is to make the source of the problem the author of the solution. That was what Ronald Reagan wanted to do with Ferdinand Marcos, keep him in place and make him part of the transition. He was overruled by the State Department, their views later articulated by Sen. Paul Laxalt who bluntly told Marcos, "Cut, and cut cleanly." The way Ramos and Juan Ponce Enrile have gone, you wonder sometimes if Laxalt wouldn't have done this country a favor by telling Marcos, while Ramos and Enrile cowered in Camp Aguinaldo, "Bomb, and bomb efficiently."

Elsewhere, people who grew older would grow wiser. Here, they just become old fools.

Extra-constitutional measures

SOUNDING BOARD

Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.



BECAUSE I did not ask for the outright resignation of President Macapagal-Arroyo in my column last Monday, some friends texted me saying I was being wishy-washy. Looking for light as I was, I asked what alternative they had to offer. The only answer that came was from one who advocated a "supervised junta," to be headed by a group chosen by the people in some unspecified fashion. I am not sure what that meant. Neither have I seen any concrete proposal on how "the people" will choose those who will compose the "junta" or "council" or "high commission," or whatever you may call it, in a manner less disruptive than the way we conduct our elections.

In the current confusion, however, people are asking how an extra-constitutional measure can work. An extra-constitutional measure is one that is not provided for in the Constitution but is not prohibited by it either. The People Power revolution of 1986 was not provided for in the 1973 Constitution except to the extent that the Constitution affirmed the sovereignty of the people. But the people who led the movement took the risk that, if it had failed, they could have landed in detention centers. Moreover, the people found a person around whom they could rally: Cory Aquino. It succeeded and the new government that was set up became acceptable to the people. In legal terms, it became *de jure*.

That in brief is how an extra-constitutional beginning becomes constitutional.

In the history of governments, an extra-legal movement can give birth to a new governmental system. It usually begins with the ouster of the ruling administration. The ouster can be violent, as in bloody revolutions, or non-violent, as what happened in February 1986. This necessarily means there is a force capable of "defeating" the power holders. The force can be military, as in armed revolutions, or popular, as in People Power.

If it is through an armed force, it will mean that the military will rule either directly or through a civilian junta beholden to it. That is a most undesirable proposition.

If it is through People Power, there must be a mass united enough to duplicate Edsa I and attractive enough to win the protection of the military. But above all, there must be a person or group around whom people can rally. Not one such group or individual is clearly in sight now.

The bottom line is that for an extra-constitutional measure to rise to the level of acceptable legitimacy, it must succeed in winning a stable hold on power. This stable hold is sometimes achieved within a short period. That is what happened in 1986. It survived attempted coups largely because of continuing popular support.

As to Edsa II, what happened was a clear attempt by its sponsors to situate it within the existing constitutional system. It thus won the support of the judiciary, the legislature, the military, the police and the masses. It was not a revolution. A revolution involves a change in the governmental system. It was only a change of administrators.

The current administration claims legitimacy from the 2004 elections. That is whence the challenge started. The President has confessed to having called "an official" of the Commission on Elections. It could not have been for a merely friendly chat. And a call from the President is not an ordinary phone call. From the nature of the office that was calling and the nature of the office being called and under the circumstances of a hotly contested election, it can be said that the call or calls can come under the broad definition of the constitutional phrase "betrayal of public trust." It had the effect of undermining further the already suspect Comelec.

She must be called to account for this. But what form of accountability will best serve the nation? This is the question that is fragmenting the nation. Mere confession does not suffice. And the challenge to her legitimacy has grown in complexity and has gone beyond mere electoral protest.

The accountability options are resignation, impeachment, or pressuring a chastened President, if chastened indeed, to launch radical and visible reforms. Which of these will serve the nation better? Which of these will push the nation into deeper chaos? It is a question that is not easily answered.

The mounting call for resignation is not unconstitutional. By itself it is nothing more than a call for the redress of grievances. This is a constitutional right of the people. If the President resigns and there is a smooth transfer of power to the Vice President, it would not be unconstitutional either. But there is every indication that the successor will also be pressured to resign. And if both the President and Vice President resign, the temporary takeover by the Senate president and the special election called for by the Constitution will also be resisted.

The President has adamantly said she will not resign. I have no reason for not believing her. She will not. Meantime her capacity to govern has been seriously or, perhaps, irretrievably impaired. What then?

I still believe resignation now will not solve problems. Impeachment, even if it succeeds in removing the President, will not solve the current problem either. What remains, it seems to me, is for a radical change both of system and of power holders to mature and win widespread popular support. It took Edsa I some time to ripen. The process of another maturation has begun. The increasing calls for resignation are part of the process even if now the callers envision conflicting futures. I join the calls now not because I believe that she will heed the voice of the people or that resignation will solve problems, but because it can lead to eventual popular consensus. The calls must peacefully spread.

Seeing the truth

KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO

Carlos Isagani T. Zarate

THE SITUATION is serious. *Wala lang ma*-realize *pa sa ubang mga tawo na* serious *kaayo ang gihimo sa presidente* (Some people just haven't realized yet the seriousness of what the President did)," commented Fr. Albert Alejo, rector of the Ateneo de Davao University, during a recent forum in Davao City.

President Macapagal-Arroyo, he claimed, has badly damaged the presidency. "*Dili puedeng ibalewala lang nato* (We cannot just take it for granted)."

Indeed, the dizzying events of the past week clearly showed how seriously the Gloriagate scandal has damaged the Arroyo presidency. The political fallout from the scandal has so spun out of control that any attempt by the administration to contain the inevitable would be futile.

The signs are ominous. Ironically, while Ms Arroyo thanked the Visayas for "giving" her the winning edge in the 2004 elections, Mindanao, where some of its provinces prominently figured in the "Garci tapes," might in the end cause the unmaking of her presidency.

Contrary to the threats of politicians loyal to her that Mindanao will secede if she is "forced to resign from office," many in the South believe that her stepping down is the only immediate solution to arrest the country's economic and political downslide. Claims that the calls for the President's resignation are orchestrated only in "Imperial Manila" is to gloss over the fact that several people's organizations, civil society groups, the middle class and other groups elsewhere in the country, including in Mindanao, have concluded that Ms Arroyo has lost the moral authority to govern the country.

The Coalition of Dabawenyos for Truth (CD Truth), a grouping of NGOs, civil society groups, as well as religious and middle-class forces in Davao City, has this to say:

"We ask, what would be a worse fate than to be condemned [to] having a president, who, in her actions and in the eyes of the people, clearly has lost the morality and decency needed to lead our country? By her logic, she would rather condemn the Filipino people to five more years of illegitimate, fraudulent and corrupt governance, rather than heed the people's call!"

President Arroyo has shown neither compunction for what she did nor resolve to end the crisis caused by that act. Her plans for Charter change will only prolong our people's agony. She continues to evade the truth and culpability by defending herself as a mere part of a rotten political system. Indeed, Philippine politics is riddled with corruption—the elections are a mockery of democracy; the Manila-centered governance discriminates against and inadequately responds to regional needs. But to suggest Charter change at this time of turmoil, when the public anger needs to be appeased in the face of scandals involving massive corruption in government and election cheating (as proven by the Garci tapes), is clearly an attempt to subvert the people's will.

Sadly, Ms Arroyo is the wrong person to oversee the "fundamental" changes in the Constitution and in government management. She has failed to live up to the spirit of Edsa II to uphold, at all times, morality and honesty in governance. She has failed to uplift the lives of the poor by imposing policies that only worsened unemployment, landlessness and poverty in our country. Her actions, from the day the Gloriagate controversy broke out, only showed how she would manufacture the truth at the expense of our people.

The sad state of Philippine affairs needs a comprehensive solution, one that will necessarily take into consideration the aspirations of our people: immediate economic relief and a government that truly serves the majority and not the few elite. As a first step, the disgraced President should remove herself from power.

Last Friday, while former President Aquino was calling for the resignation of President Arroyo, Palanca awardee and poet Don Pagusara was reciting, at a forum in the Ateneo de Davao University, his poem titled "Ang Babayeng Salamangkera ug ang Lalaking Tagolilong" (The Lady Magician and the Invisible Man). Here are some excerpts:

"*A crisp whisper escaped from the tight sealed lips / a voice from a woman garbed in textiled ballots / rent the awesome silence within the Ballot Box: Hello Garci!, a call promptly returned with Yes Ma'am? / by a man rendered invisible because donning an RTW with the signature brand name COMELEC....And.../ right there and then began the tale of ignominious crime/ ever yet told in the history of democracy in the Philippines, / whereby the Lady Magician willfully stole and trampled the sacred ballot of the Filipino people, and made of / our national elections despicable farcical exercises...../*

"*The ballot is the last remaining card of the ordinary citizens / to exercise in level field with the rich their democratic rights./ If this be wrested from them, what other weapon can the poor / people resort to in order to uphold the ideals of democracy / and advance their dream for the future of their society? / .... Flashfloods of people's protests have grown bigger by the day, / the whirlwinds of anger getting fiercer by the hour, because / of the Lady Magician's adamant and intransigent stance / to remain in power. But these whirlwinds will sweep away / all the litter and dirt along their vigorous paths, while it has become clear to everyone the Lady Magician is a fake president. /*

"*Oh Lady Magician! The only redeeming act you should do now / is to make a staircase which you will use to step down from / the helm of power you have arrogated unto yourself by fraud. / You have lost the high moral ground to rule. No amount of / cosmetics can mask the ugly countenance of your regime, nor / can any perfume deodorize the rotten smell of your governance.*"

Assessing risks

THE LONG VIEW

Manuel L. Quezon III

(I'd like to present the thoughts of Karl Kendrick Chua, a part-time lecturer on Economics at the Ateneo, whose thoughts impressed me during a gathering of young professionals last Friday.

His thesis: "The call for resignation must come with accountability for our decisions and a plan for the economy in case of a succession.")

"CALLING GMA to resign and giving the right reasons are not enough. Stopping here is only a short-run solution and is bound to cause more problems in the medium-to-long run." He says those calling for her resignation must accept and be accountable for the following:

First, "The Vice President must, without question, succeed the President."

Next, "The choice of Noli de Castro as successor must have gone through a very thorough cost-benefit analysis and discernment. On the positive side, he is neither connected with nor biased for the following: Marcos and martial law, and Edsa 1, 2 and 3. He is also not political. His experience as newscaster, reporter and TV host, which has brought him to all places in the country and to all kinds of people in different social conditions may be an important asset to the presidency. While he is seen as less competent for the position, some may argue that his good advisers are enough to guide him. But woe to the people who are naïve not to think that equally bad advisers and blackmailers can influence him and ruin him and the presidency again. It is a deep tragedy to think that the presidency cannot be influenced badly. It is a myth to think that good can win over evil. This may be true in the end of times but not in present battles. Those calling for GMA's resignation and thus NDC's succession can only do so after giving the entire issue and its consequences much thought. Otherwise, pushing for the short-term solution without thinking of its gigantic consequences would only plunge our country into deeper uncertainty and turmoil.

"If we agree to call for GMA's resignation, we must be held accountable for the consequences, even the worst-case scenario of an incompetent NDC as president surrounded by useless advisers with greater vested interest, an economic crisis similar to 1983-85, and institutions plunging to total uselessness."

On the economy: "The economy must always be insulated from the political mess. It must remain resilient and inelastic to the political situation. Most importantly, the fiscal and tax administrative reforms must continue without delay to avert an economic collapse already predicted by respectable economists. In this light, those calling for the resignation of GMA and thus the accession of Noli de Castro must accept and support the reappointment of the economic team to the Cabinet upon succession of NDC, most especially Emilia Boncodin and Willy Parayno, without delay. The reappointment of Parayno is paramount as his departure will stall the most important reforms in tax administration history."

On unity and leadership: "Since so many people and groups are declaring their stand, they are nevertheless close to futile without a clear unified stand and a leader. Without Cardinal Sin and given a tired Cory Aquino, there is a vacuum in moral and civil leadership. We need to rally behind a leader. We must first identify the most credible leader in civil and religious society. Personally, I would rally behind the collective... decision of the CBCP. Second, we must swallow our own pride and be humble before our chosen leader and his decision/stand. In this case, we must discard our petty quarrels on the minor details of the issue as well as everything connected to the bigger issue which is not important, urgent or critical. As a benchmark, let go of everything that we are not willing to stake our life to. The most important points that should unite us are the following: constitutional succession, fully accepting accountability for the resignation of GMA, the succession of NDC, the unpredictable scenario that may arise in the new administration, and shielding the economy from the political mess."

On the electoral structure: "Given some consensus and evidence that the oligarchs have ruled for generations and have drastically stunted economic growth and holistic development of the country, we must declare that beginning the next election, we must refuse to elect any member of the political oligarchic clans to any position in government no matter how competent and sincere they are. It is only then that we will have a government less vested with political interest and can serve the people better." I strongly support this call.

On attitude toward the whole issue: "It must be ... obvious by now that any form of stand, debate, argument or complaint without a workable alternative or solution must be considered useless and a waste of resources. Problems without solutions add to [the] noise, confusion and uncertainty."

On how to strengthen the new president's capacity to rule, he has this initial list of proposals:

One, "Civil and religious society, which have clamored for GMA's resignation and consequently allowing NDC to succeed must declare publicly and adhere strictly and sincerely to this declaration: That NDC does not owe civil and religious society anything, especially his seat of power, and thus is free to run the country without resorting to [paying] and honoring political debts."

Two, "Civil and religious society may give advice to the new president but should again declare publicly and adhere strictly and sincerely that its members will not push for one of them to be in the Cabinet or in any other position in government. They must also declare that NDC is free to appoint as he wishes, subject to the normal rules of appointment and tests of competence and neutrality."

Things fall apart

COMMENTARY

Luis V. Teodoro

THE PULSE Asia finding that 61 percent of Filipinos think they would be better off without Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in Malacañang was not surprising. Previous surveys had earlier indicated a vast erosion of public confidence in Ms Arroyo.

Malacañang claims not to be surprised at the findings either. But however much Malacañang affects indifference to the gathering storm calling for Ms Arroyo to resign—that now includes 10 former members of her own Cabinet and even her allies in the Liberal Party—she may soon find herself leaving the Palace as her capacity to govern deteriorates.

The distinct possibility that Ms Arroyo will end up as just another footnote in this country's troubled history has triggered a scramble among various political forces to shape—or, at least, to be part of the shaping—of a post-Arroyo Philippines even as they intensify their efforts for her resignation or ouster.

The most visible of these forces actually constitutes a broad movement, a united front, a de facto alliance of several anti-Arroyo forces, among them, the various wings of the traditional opposition (factions of the Estrada, Poe, Pimentel, Lacson groups, etc.); the legal Left that now includes Bayan and its erstwhile rival Sanlakas; the progressive Church people; the Jesus is Lord Movement of "Brother" Eddie Villanueva; as well as labor, women's, artists', actors', movie directors', academics' and other sectoral groups.

Then there are the junta advocates—led by former Defense Secretary Fortunato Abat and made up of retired generals, (former President Fidel V. Ramos is said to be their group's real moving spirit)—at one point highly visible but nowadays back in the shadows. However, there are other anti-Arroyo formations in the military, among them those organized by officers who claim to be opposed to corruption and committed to reform within the military.

Although the second group is easily tagged as "rightist," the first is less easily labeled. While the legal Left is part of the anti-Arroyo coalition, it is not the dominant force in it. It is influential in academia, as well as among labor and women's groups, the Church and the communities. It can mobilize the numbers needed for demonstrations and other mass actions. But it is only one group among many others.

Neither the legal Left nor the Communist Party of the Philippines and its New People's Army seem to harbor any illusion that the present crisis can lead to their ascendancy. The CPP remains focused on the long-term struggle for power. It has always believed, after all, that political power cannot be won through parliamentary means or even People Power, but only through protracted people's war.

On the other hand, learning from the lessons of the boycott error of 1986, the legal Left groups have decided to involve themselves in the current crisis to affirm that they are a relevant political force, as well as to influence the thinking and actions of the groups they believe they can work with. The most the legal Left groups want is representation in a council of leaders—in which, incidentally, they can easily be marginalized. But they are also prepared to accept a "constitutional solution"—i.e., Vice President Noli de Castro's assuming the presidency under the banner of a reformist government. This is far short of any intent to "take over."

As far as the underground Left is concerned, the elite have interpreted Jose Ma. Sison's statement that the NPA is intensifying its tactical offensives as an indication that the CPP is preparing to take power. This is an interpretation based on ignorance of CPP strategy and tactics, and of the vast amount of literature it has generated on the subject.

It also ignores the reality that the NPA does not have the numbers to defeat the Armed Forces of the Philippines through conventional war, and must rely on guerrilla warfare until its forces and fighting capacity are on par with the AFP's. But among the most absurd views in current circulation is the paranoid conviction that the present crisis, unless the political "Center" aggressively prevents it, will be resolved either in favor of the Left or the Right—whereas the only probability is that it will be resolved with the Right still in power.

The Left does exist, but it cannot take power. On the other hand, the Center cannot take power either—because it does not exist in a country where the divisions are so stark they are primarily between those who have everything and those who have nothing. Elements of the so-called political Center—by which is meant *hacienda* owners and landlords who had their chance to transform this country, but blew it; Church leaders at the forefront of opposition to meaningful change and even to artificial contraception; businessmen who resist every effort at raising the wages of workers barely subsisting from one meal to the next; and others—would like the rest of the country to believe that they are the alternative to the Left and Right, when actually they comprise a category of the Right, but too embarrassed to admit its conservatism.

While the Center pretends to be reformist, where its heart truly lies is currently indicated by its denizens' focus: not on the political, economic and social reforms that need to be undertaken by any post-Arroyo government, but on the fear of the Left and the vast legions of the poor.

In a post-Arroyo situation, it is likely that what happened in People Power I and II will be repeated. Another wing, or another clique of the same ruling elite, will take power to the exclusion—at least at this stage—of the Left and the Filipino masses.

In the long march of the Filipino people toward independence and social change, the current crisis is but a minor episode from which their only benefit will be their enhanced understanding of the corruption of the political and electoral systems—and perhaps a louder voice in this country's affairs.

For its part, the Center should get back to its accustomed comforts in Hacienda Luisita and the Archbishop's Palace. It need not worry—at least not yet. Things will continue to fall apart, as they have been falling apart for decades under a succession of governments—some of them as "Centrist" as Ms Arroyo's—dominated by the same ruling elite that have driven this country ever deeper into poverty and mass misery.

But it should take care. In the long run the Center (read: the Right) cannot hold.

Luis V. Teodoro is a professor of journalism at the University of the Philippines.

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

Not an apology but a brazen lie

IN ADMITTING that she called a Comelec official, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo tried all her best to look and sound contrite, telling the Filipino people that it was a mere "lapse in judgment" and her "intent was not to influence the outcome of the election." Expectedly, her allies urged the nation to readily forgive her, forget the transgression and move on.

"That is a mark of a true leader," Senate President Franklin Drilon said of her confession.

An act of "exemplary courage and humility," Senate President Pro Tempore Juan Flavier called it.

Speaker Jose de Venecia said she "has regained the moral high ground by ending her period of isolation...It is our hope that our officials and our people will now move forward to attend to the many problems still confronting the nation."

"After her mea culpa, we must now all move on...Let the process of national healing, which truth and humility made possible to begin," Sen. Ralph Recto said.

But the "Hello Garci" tapes suggested very much that she wanted to influence the outcome of the election.

Besides, what was the point of her calling Virgilio Garcillano? "I was anxious to protect my votes," she explained. But Garcillano was not the commissioner assigned to supervise the Comelec operations in Mindanao. So how could he have "protected" Ms Arroyo's votes there? If it was really her intent to "protect" her votes, it would have made more sense if she had called the Comelec chair or commissioner in charge of Mindanao.

What is very clear is Ms Arroyo would not have called Garcillano without a purpose. And the conversations strongly suggested what that purpose was. That she called not just once but quite often and all too regularly, especially when there seemed to be some "problems," only confirmed what the conversations suggest.

A mere lapse of judgement? Only fools or those who would make themselves fools would believe Ms Arroyo didn't mean to cheat when she called Garcillano. Never mind listening to the contents of the tape. Just look at the frequency and timing of the calls.

No, Ms Arroyo's apologia was not a noble act, as her allies would want the nation to see it. Neither was it an act of courage, humility or contrition. It was one more brazen lie, among the many, the fake President keeps foisting on the Filipino people. The apology, therefore, only aggravated her sin of subverting the sovereign will.

What then?

Ms Arroyo told the Filipino nation that she is taking "full responsibility" for the transgression. If she means it sincerely, then she should do the one and only act left of her to do: the most honorable act she can do for herself, the most noble act she can do for the Filipino people. Thus, shall she free the nation from further uncertainty, instability and never-ending divisiveness of which she has become unquestionably the principal cause. She should resign. Now!

Only then can this nation move forward.

—RODRIGO ALMARICO,
29 Scout Tuazon St., Quezon City

Another malaria coming to Palawan

LAST month, three men— Reyster Langit, Christian Macadaeg and Arnold Tañare—died of malaria contracted in the hinterlands of Rizal in Palawan. In a clear attempt to stem negative public reaction to the incident, Puerto Princesa Mayor Edward Hagedorn made the greatest statement of the day: "Although malaria is no longer a threat in Puerto Princesa City, we value life more than anything else." (PDI, 6/5/05) Can the good mayor of Puerto Princesa say the same thing about mining?

According to a reliable source, there are about 180 mining applications in Palawan. If all these applications will be granted, what will remain of Palawan? Will Malacañang and the LGUs of Palawan ban mining in that province? Mayor Hagedorn's disturbing, facetious reaction may well be his same reaction to the environmentalists' opposition to mining.

The government's tack is to promote what it calls "sustainable mining," a seemingly innocuous word loaded with tons of contradiction. There is no such thing as sustainable mining. All mining is non-sustainable. When you mine, you bore a hole into mountains, rivers, ocean beds, etc. Minerals, precious metals and stones lie hidden beneath the earth, and this earth could be on a mountain, a watershed, forest, even agricultural land and residential area. Thus, the surface must be removed or moved to expose the desired treasure beneath. The digging and drilling call for the use of explosives, high-pressure water pumps and chemicals.

With mining, what happens to the trees and to the wildlife in the forests? Miners are also loggers. They cut down trees and sell the lumber. Wildlife? Miners can easily become poachers.

What happens to the toxic mine tailings? They are collected in dams, and when the dams overflow, just close your eyes as the Marcopper officials did in Marinduque.

No matter how the government uses the word "sustainable," it cannot deceive people when the mountain disappears, when the air becomes heavy and dirty, when the fish and various water life die in rivers and oceans, when water becomes scarce and what remains is no longer potable, and last but not least, when hunger, unemployment and disease begin to set in.

Three people have died of malaria in Palawan. I am sure more have died but are not being reported. But another malaria is coming to town—mining! Mining is another disease that will kill more than three. Mining will kill entire populations, destroy entire forests and pollute entire rivers, streams, seas and oceans.

—FR. ROBERTO P. REYES,
Gomburza,
Our Lady of the
Miraculous Medal Parish,
Camerino cor. Legazpi Streets,
Project 4, Quezon City

LETTERS
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

A junta won't do

I SHARE the view of Gov. Ben Evardone of Eastern Samar: Destabilization may cause the downfall of President Macapagal-Arroyo, but this could in turn mean a junta which is, pure and simple, a dictatorship rising to power. To make it acceptable to the public, a civilian say, Susan Roces, may be asked to head it as nominal president.

But there will be no law to hold us together, and every part of the republic may just declare itself independent, each with its own armed forces. Mindanao, where armed Muslims are well organized, could secede any time. Samar, where the New People's Army is strong, could break away as another republic. Cebu may do the same and Palawan also.

Where do we go after the destabilizers have finished their dirty job?

Hatred for Ms Arroyo does not mean patriotism. It may in fact be the opposite. People who allow themselves to be used in destabilizing the Arroyo administration might end up sorry later.

Pawns are pawns in the big game of politics. And they are usually the first to die.

Rez Cortez et al. might have to say sorry after having inflicted a gaping wound on the body politic; and the word "Filipino" could disappear. What would remain could be the word "Filipina" meaning, a housemaid from a group of islands once known as the Philippines.

Think of this, dear destabilizers. Good for you who are armed with guns or with green cards and money. *Paano kami na mga hampas lupa lamang* (What of us the hapless poor)? I pray for the survival of the nation and the name Philippines, the only country I have and love.

—CORNELIO A. SY,
assistant city prosecutor,
Rm. 305 Mezzanine,
City Hall, Manila

Truth behind the missing jeepney at closed MMDA impounding area

IN REFERENCE to Ramon Tulfo's June 28 column on Wenceslao Maragrag's jeepney, allow us to clarify:

Some time in 2000, residents of Arellano Street, Sta. Ana, Manila, led by Erlinda R. Ignacio, petitioned their barangay chair, Rafael Palisoc, for the removal of a dilapidated jeepney which had been parked in front of Ignacio's house for more than two years.

Acting on the request, Palisoc ordered Maragrag to remove his jeepney from the place within one month. But the order went unheeded. On March 1, 2000, the jeepney was towed to an MMDA impounding area at Vitas, Tondo, Manila. Following the prescribed process, the MMDA issued Maragrag a trip ticket, technical inspection report and a traffic violation receipt. This prompted Maragrag to file a case against Palisoc and Ignacio before the Manila Prosecutor's Office.

From March 1, 2000 until October 2000, Maragrag never bothered to redeem his vehicle, so it was deemed abandoned. When the impounding area was closed in October 2000, all vehicles there were transferred to other MMDA impounding areas. However, Maragrag's jeepney was not recorded among them.

Upon learning about the impounding area's closure and his missing vehicle, Maragrag suddenly became interested in redeeming it. The MMDA conducted an exhaustive investigation to find out the circumstances behind the loss of the jeepney. Unable to account for the vehicle, the MMDA recommended that Maragrag be paid the amount of P25,000, the cost of the vehicle, based on the deed of sale he presented.

However, in accordance with MMDA's regulations, Maragrag—for failing to pay the fine and towing fee within three days from the date his jeepney was towed and impounded—was charged, P40/day for the first and second month, P60/day for the third and fourth month, and P80/day for the fifth and sixth month, but not exceeding P10,000.

Based on Maragrag's deed of sale and the regulations, the following computation was arrived at: worth of vehicle—P25,000; less: storage fee—P10,000, towing fee—P1,000 and TVR—P500; amount due—P13,500.

The amount was offered to Maragrag as just payment for his lost jeepney. But he turned down the offer and filed instead a complaint against our personnel before the Ombudsman, Public Attorney's Office, Presidential Action Center and the DILG. The Ombudsman case was dismissed. However, the anti-graft court recommended that the MMDA come up with a more equitable payment for the complainant's lost vehicle. Maragrag rejected the compromise offer and proceeded to use the media in airing his complaint.

—ROLANDO E. JOSEF,
chief of staff,
Office of the Chairman,
Metropolitan Manila
Development Authority,
Guadalupe, Makati City

Truly a mentor worthy of adulation

MY deepest appreciation and admiration go to Antonio Calipjo Go for his rare courage and intellectual integrity in exposing the many errors our elementary and high school textbooks contain. The errors are a shame and mortal sin committed against our young students. Go is truly a mentor worthy of respect and adulation.

The elementary and high school textbooks certainly do not have a monopoly of errors, grammatical or factual. Some textbook manuals in basic college science courses contain unpardonable mistakes that remain uncorrected for many years.

Prior to publication and distribution to the students, a textbook must be thoroughly reviewed by a peer group, or by a committee of experts if available, or by a recognized authority on a particular field. This process will ensure the accuracy of the information given.

Kudos to Go. May his tribe increase.

—FRANCISCO G. DE GUZMAN, Ph.D.,
Department of Biology,
IAS, FEU, Morayta, Manila

GOUDIE ASSOCIATES

HONG KONG
22/F Hua Fu Commercial Building
111 Queen's Road West
Hongkong
Telephone (852) 2520 1328
Facsimile (852) 2865 6133
Email ga-hkg@goudieassociates.com
Website www.goudieassociates.com

SINGAPORE
7 Purvis Street
#03-01/02-01
Singapore 188586
Telephone (65) 6224 5887
Facsimile (65) 6224 5910
Email ga-sin@goudieassociates.com
Website www.goudieassociates.com

MANILA
22/F Antel 2000 Corporate Center
121 Valero Street, Salcedo Village
1200 Makati City, Philippines
Telephone (632) 8871751
Facsimile (632) 8871750
Email ga-mnl@goudieassociates.com
Website www.goudieassociates.com

CEBU
Unit 1506 Keppel Centre
Samar Loop cor. Cardinal Rosales Avenue
Cebu Business Park, Cebu City
Philippines
Telephone (6332) 234-4746
Facsimile (6332) 415 8266
Email ga-cbu@goudieassociates.com
Website www.goudieassociates.com

Goudie Associates has been voted by Consumers and Marketing Professionals as **"Most Outstanding Interior Designer"** through a combination of surveys, focus group discussions and market research based on the following criteria:

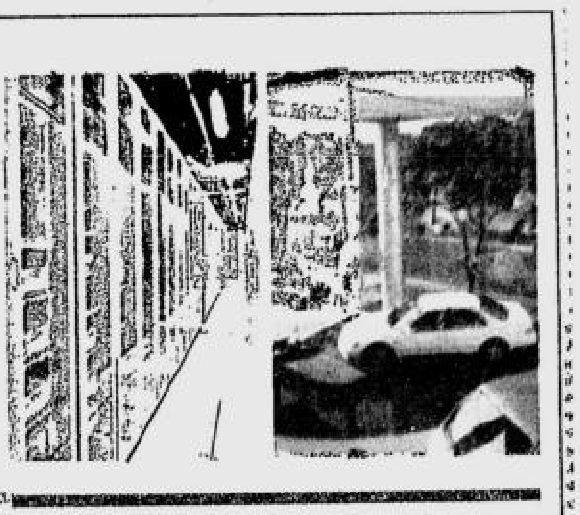
☐ Market Awareness
☐ Customers Service Orientation
☐ Product / Service Quality
☐ Value Pricing
☐ Other Awards Received

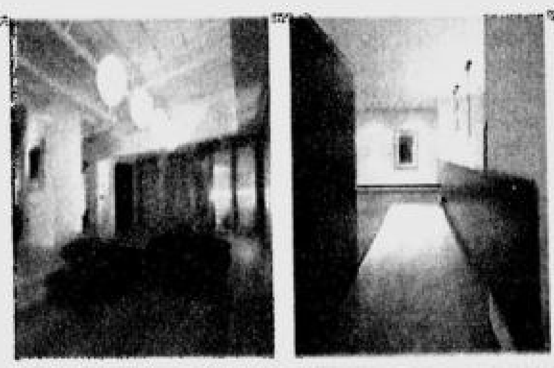
The Philippine Marketing Excellence Award has recognized **Goudie Associates** for best marketing practices leading towards market dominance, goodwill, customer confidence and market acceptability.

Goudie Associates' marketing practices ultimately benefit their clients in terms of design quality, product value and after movein customer service.

Goudie Associates has been producing innovative and cost effective designs for **over 20 years** throughout the Asia Pacific Region.

Arch Carlos de Castro, Managing Director of **Goudie Associates,** who has received several design awards in the Philippines and Hong kong said that "the Philippines client list alone is substantial, and a large percentage of these clients form long term relationships with **Goudie Associates,** to expand, relocate or reconfigure their facilities. This is a testament to our attention to detail and to the level of services provided."





Goudie Associates Manila clients include: 3M **Ann Taylor** Aegon Life **Adroit** Innovations **Ambergris** American Embassy **US Agricultural Office-US Wheat** Aster International/Emerson Power **Ayala Corporation** Ayala Land **Bank of America** Bank of East Asia **Bank of China** Bataan Polyethylene **BMC Software** Bristol-Myers Squibb **BSB Group** BZW Asia **Caltex** CB Richard Ellis **CBK Power** Citibank **Cocolife** Computer Associates **Convergys** CT&P Holdings **Credit Lyonnais Securities** Deutsche Bank **Dredsdner Bank** Edison Mission Energy **Eli Lilly** Erns&Young **European Union** Etelecare **Exxon Mobil** Federal Phoenix **GlaxoSmithKline** Green Cross **Harrison Communications** Henkel Financial **ING** International Distillers **Jardine Schindler** Jardine Lloyd **Jones Lang LaSalle** Joaquin Cunanan/ Pricewaterhouse Coopers **JPMorgan Chase** Kawasaki **Kimberly Clark** Kumon Phils **Leo Burnett Manila** Link2Support **Lucent Technologies** Master Foods **Marsh Phils** Microsoft Great Plains **Mindshare/Maxus** Misys International Banking System **Navitaire** New York Life Insurance **Nike** Nokia **NortelNetworks** Nu Skin **Oakridge Properties** PTT/Coastal **Pasar** Philip Morris **Primark** Prumerica Finacial **Punongbayan Araullo** Quest International **Quisumbing Torres/Baker McKenzie** Roche **Regus** Rolls Royce **Salomon Smith Barney** Sony Life Insurance **Sun Life Finacial** SyCip Salazar Hernandez Gatmaitan **Shell Exploration Phils** Starcom Media **San Pascual Cogeneration** Sandz Distribution **SwissRe Manila** Toyota Motor Phils **Thai Airways** United Laboratories / Dielhelm **UBS Securities Phils** Union Bank of California **United Nations** Thomson Financial **Webworks** West Contact Services **Xurpas**

total ventures, inc.
INTERIOR FIT-OUT SPECIALTY CONTRACTOR
521 Boni Serrano Avenue, Cubao,
Quezon City, Philippines
Tel. Nos. 911-3932 • 911-3934 • 437-75501
Fax No.: (0632) 912-4402
E-mail: tventures@pacific.net.ph

PRO BUILDERS
INCORPORATED
office : (06332) 412-9728
(06332) 231-8340
(06332) 233-5054
mobile # 0922 - 5492195
email add: probi@info.com.ph or
probuilders2005@yahoo.com
Beside CBX Bldg. J. De Veyra St.
North Reclamation Area, Cebu City
Philippines

RAGOJOS HERITAGE
CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION
No. 61 Vicente Avenue,
North Susana Exec. Village, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 951 9760 to 67 951 2200
Fax No. 931 1969
Website www.ragojosheritage.com
E-mail address: [illegible]@ragojosheritage.com

HOFFSMAN SYTEMATIC
DESIGNS, INC.
2/F Liberty Plaza, 102 H.V. Dela
Costa cor. Valero Sts. Salcedo
Village, Makati City
Tel.: (632) 843 1113
(632) 843 1124
FAX: (632) 884 8900
Email: hoffsman@vasia.com

RCW CONSTRUCTION
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
INTERIOR FIT-OUT CONTRACTORS
5th Floor 508 Jovan Condominium
Shaw Blvd. Cor. Samat Street, Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos. : (632) 533-7020 Fax No. : (632) 533-3438

MONDAY, JULY 11, 2005 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER A17

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
Across the NATION
Text us your feedback: Inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

Drilon draws flak from other Ilonggos

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—Senate President Franklin Drilon has drawn flak from fellow Ilonggos for his abrupt change of sides in calling for the resignation of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Local radio stations have been swamped by text messages criticizing Drilon for abandoning the President just a week after he was heard heaping praises and professing his unconditional support to the President when she was here during the opening of the Philippine-Spanish Friendship Week on June 30.

Drilon, Liberal Party (LP) president, announced on Friday that his party was withdrawing support for the President and calling for her resignation to end the political crisis stemming from allegations that she committed fraud in the last elections.

Land Reform Secretary Rene Villa, who is closely identified with Drilon, was among the Cabinet secretaries who resigned from their posts hours before Drilon's announcement.

The LP stand has been questioned by other party leaders and members, including their chair Manila Mayor Lito Atienza, who said they were not consulted. They said the position did not reflect the general sentiments of party members.

Many Ilonggos were surprised by Drilon's break from the President. Drilon is considered among the President's staunchest allies, along with other Ilonggo officials like Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez and Iloilo Mayor Jerry Treñas, who heads the 117-members League of Cities of the Philippines.

They are considered instrumental in the President's winning margin of around half a million votes in the province and city over the late actor and opposition presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr. in the last elections. The margin is next only to Cebu, which gave the President a margin of over a million votes.

During her recent visit here, the President thanked the Ilonggos again for their support.

But hours after Drilon called on the President to resign, streamers in support of Ms Arroyo were removed from the grounds of the provincial capitol.

Gov. Niel Tupas, who like Drilon publicly told the President of his unwavering support during her visit, announced on Saturday that he was joining Drilon's call for Ms Arroyo's resignation as the party stand.

Villa defended their break from the President. "I hope the Ilonggos would understand," he told the INQUIRER in a telephone interview.

"[Drilon's] track record shows that he has always acted on the best interest of the people especially the Ilonggos," said Villa.

He said their decision was prompted by information and developments that "we in the government know but the ordinary people does not."

"Events happened so fast and we reacted on the basis of these developments," he said. He added that their change in position was reached because of the "accumulation of events."

He refused to elaborate on specific developments that prompted them to call for her resignation. He said he would not want to discuss matters tackled in the Cabinet.

"She is being attacked from all fronts and I personally believe that her capacity to govern has been seriously impaired. She will spend most of her time trying to survive," said Villa.

He said we would rather opt for "somebody with [fewer] baggage," referring to Vice President Noli de Castro.

THANKS TO MY NU/HART HAIR TRANSPLANT, I NOW HAVE A NATURAL & PERMANENT SOLUTION TO HAIR LOSS

O.A. - Nu/Hart Client

Nu/Hart Hair Clinics has performed over 25,000 hair restoration procedures on clients from over 40 countries around the world – and has now brought its American clinical expertise to the Philippines.

This simple outpatient procedure takes only a few hours, allowing most clients to return to their normal daily routine within a day or two.

If you're thinning or balding, take the first step in restoring your own natural growing hair. Call Nu/Hart Manila now to schedule your FREE, private, no obligation consultation and find out if you are a good candidate for hair restoration.

Call or visit us now for a
FREE CONSULTATION.
638-6000
26/F Wynsum Plaza, 22 F. Ortigas Jr. Road
(formerly Emerald Avenue) Ortigas (Behind Discovery Suites)
CONSULTATIONS AVAILABLE IN CEBU AND DAVAO

visit our website at
www.nuhart.com
or email us at
manila@nuhartme.com

0% INTEREST MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE
HSBC Card Holders & Others via Dominion Financing

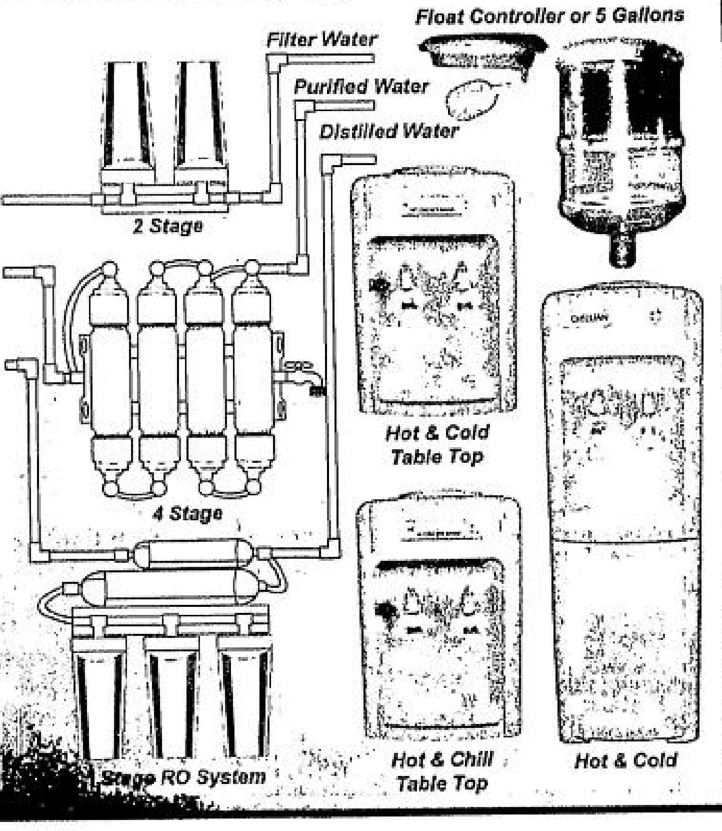
NU/HART
HAIR CLINICS
There's a new you waiting at Nu/Hart.

Manila • New York • Chicago • Atlanta • Pittsburgh • Philadelphia • Puerto Rico • Dubai

Results may vary

CHILLIAN
New Alternatives for Hot & Cold Dispensers

HEALTHY WATER FOR HEALTHY LIVING
No need to fill up your 5 gallons anymore. Nawasa water is potable but it's safer to have it filtered.
Use as many stages of filter as you like.
It's your choice!



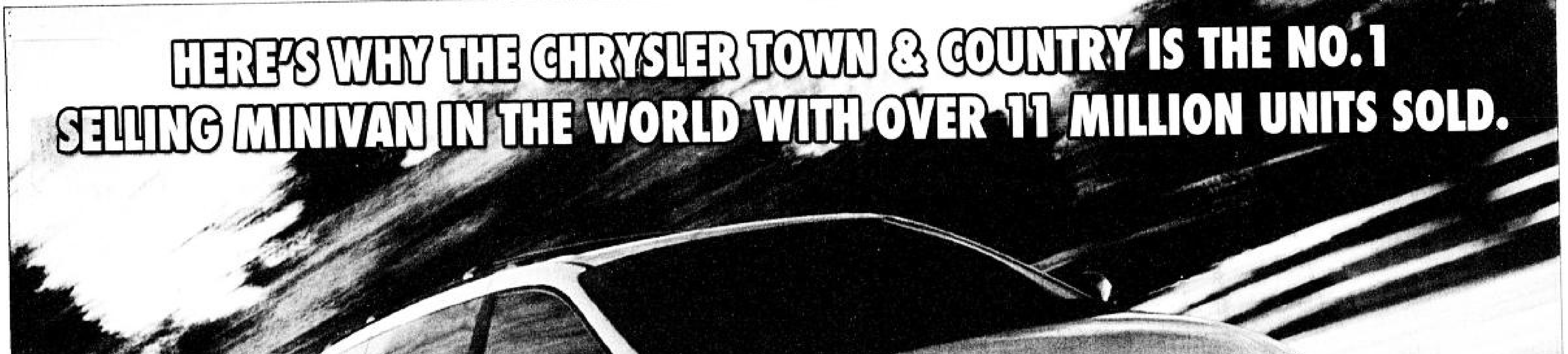
OPTIONAL: UV FILTER

FILTERS CAN BE MOUNTED AT THE BACK OF DISPENSER

Quality Approved by:

Available at all SM, True Value, Sogo, Do It Best, Robinsons Handyman & Work Stations Outlets.

SALES SERVICE CENTERS:
Makati 843.1171 / 892.1638 / 844.0562 / 840.2527
Pampanga (045) 961.1686 to 87
Laguna 529.4621 / 694.4643
Cainta 660.5540 / 660.8175
Davao (082) 297.7257 / 297.8897
Cebu (032) 346.0660 / 420.2788

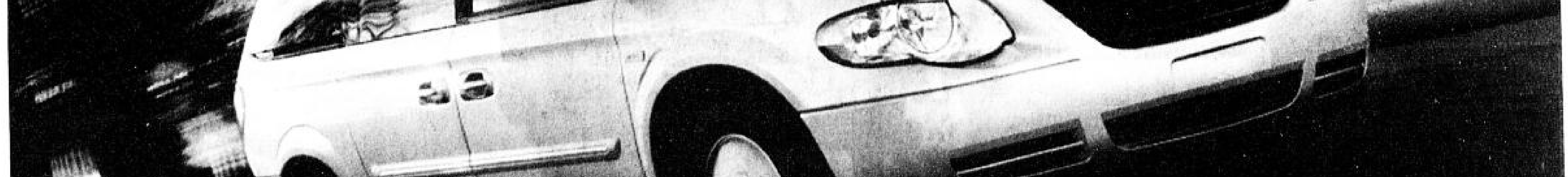

HERE'S WHY THE CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY IS THE NO.1 SELLING MINIVAN IN THE WORLD WITH OVER 11 MILLION UNITS SOLD.

The Most Powerful Engine!
A 3.8 V6! The most powerful engine in its class coupled with a unique fuel injection system guarantee power and fuel efficiency.

5*-Star Rating Safety System
Your family has never been safer! Our 5-star rated* safety system goes beyond seatbelts to include full front air bags and side air curtains for all-around safety.

More Space, More Room
Our ingenious Stow N' Go system maximizes all internal space to the last cubic inch. It's so easy that even a 10-year old can do it in less than 17 seconds!

Innovative Convenience
Fully automatic side doors and lift gate, a Chrysler innovation and the first ever in the country!



3 YEAR WARRANTY 100,000 KMS WHICHEVER COMES FIRST

The 2005 Town & Country is what a minivan should be.

More room, more power, greater handling, maximum safety, versatility and convenience!
The best for your family, the best value for your money from Chrysler.
No wonder the Chrysler Town & Country is the best selling minivan in the world.
Call 723-5808 to find out more.

CHRYSLER

CATS
CATS Motors, Inc. Greenhills
1008 EDSA Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel.No.: 723-5808 Mobile No.: 0917-8507194 Fax.No.: 726-7741
Email: chryslergroup@cats.com.ph Website: www.chrysler.com.ph

Employees of agri agency push probe of graft raps vs exec

COTABATO CITY—Employees of the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI), the Department of Agriculture's training arm in South-Central Mindanao, has asked the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission (PAGC) to look into the criminal and administrative complaints they filed against their director and his assistant two years ago.

Alicia Rose Nebreja, ATI training specialist and the group's spokesperson, told the INQUIRER on Sunday that they filed eight charges against ATI chief Efraim Nicolas and his assistant Virginia Rivera but nothing had happened to the cases.

Nicolas, however, said the Ombudsman in Mindanao had already cleared him of criminal and administrative charges.

Showing a communiqué signed by graft investigation officer II Lourdez Paloma-Salazar, Nicolas said he had no pending cases before the antigraft body.

The cases stemmed from the alleged irregular transfer of more than P2.2 million of government funds to Nicolas' personal account, payroll padding, anomalous procurement system of construction materials, theft of construction materials and other resources, irregular misuse of funds of projects for sustainable technology to accelerate rice sufficiency, non-remittance of souvenir programs amounting to P44,950, and unauthorized use of the center's vehicle.

Nebreja said the office resident auditor, Madoline de Leon, allegedly approved Nicolas' move to transfer the funds to his account.

She said they also filed a complaint before the Office of Ombudsman-Mindanao which, in August 2003, required Nicolas and Rivera to answer the charges.

In September 2003, Nebreja's group was ordered by the Ombudsman to submit their rebuttal. Two months later, it issued a resolution endorsing to Eugenio Fernandez, Commission on Audit cluster director, the conduct of an audit investigation and verification.

Nebreja said the audit process never happened.

On June 27, the ATI employees sent a manifesto to President Macapagal-Arroyo seeking Nicolas' immediate transfer and investigation.

"This is too much already. They are harassing me," Nicolas told the INQUIRER.

He said three of his co-workers were interested in his post and that of his assistant.

Jeoffrey Maitem, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Davao dads to block permit for Swiss firm

DAVAO CITY—Local councilors plan to block the issuance of a limestone mining permit to the Swiss giant firm Holcim Cement, which has acquired a 380-hectare exploration and extraction claim in the Bunawan area.

The case will show how the battles to stop the entry of foreign mining firms in the country are fought at the local, not the national level, according to Councilor Peter Laviña, referring to a Supreme Court decision opening the entire country to foreign mining firms.

Laviña said the proposed mining site, which covers three barangays, has been classified as "agricultural." Allowing mining there violates the city's zoning law, he said.

"Limestone quarry is open-pit mining which destroys the topsoil and all plants and vegetation therein, leaving the quarried area desolate and unusable," he said.

After the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' approval of its limestone exploration and extraction permit, Holcim Cement is now seeking a memorandum of agreement with the local government.

The MOA would require the company to assume responsibility for a possible damage arising from limestone extraction and to ensure the prompt payment of taxes to the national government.

Another councilor, Diosdado Mahipus, has proposed a P50-million environment guarantee fund to compensate the three villages that would be affected.

Holcim has taken over the former Bacnotan Cement factory in Barangay Ilang here." *Germelina Lacorte, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

C-Lium © Fibre
CAPSULES
For greater convenience and ease of use.

New!
C-Lium FIBRE

100% Natural & Organic,
no additives, no sweeteners, no artificial flavours, no cholesterol, gluten free.

National Shopper's Choice Award - 2004 No.1 Natural / Organic Fiber Supplement"
Philippine Marketing Excellence Award - 2005 "Most Outstanding Natural / Organic Fiber Supplement"
Philippine Business Achievers Awards - 2005 "Most Outstanding Natural / Organic Fiber Supplement"
12th Asia Pacific Excellence Awards - 2005 "Outstanding Natural / Organic Fiber Supplement"

helps eliminate constipation
helps reduce weight
helps reduce cholesterol
helps reduce the risk of heart disease
helps blood sugar control
helps prevent sickness

Psyllium husk is endorsed by:
National Heart Foundation
American Heart Foundation
ATKINS
THE SOUTH BEACH DIET
HALAL
SAFE QUALITY FOOD 2000 CERTIFIED SGS0 01310 HACCP Approved

AVAILABLE
mercury drug NAKASISIGURO GAMOT AY LAGING BAGO
AND OTHER LEADING DRUGSTORES

DISTRIBUTED BY:
PHILUSA CORPORATION
TEL: 631-1731 to 39
Fax: 635-6510 to 11

C-Lium©Fibre
For a healthier stomach.

Tel.: (632) 5246549 E-mail: cliumfibre@pacific.net.ph Website: www.cliumfibre.com

RECOMMENDED BY GASTROENTEROLOGISTS, MEDICAL AND HEALTH PRACTITIONERS.
TXT 4 INFO: LUZON 09167410346 VISAYAS 09102932635 MINDANAO 09212600228

The All New Suzuki APV
All-purpose value
All-round fun

APV
3-year / 100,000 km* Warranty
2-year / 20,000 km* Free preventive maintenance
(* Which ever comes first)

New Family Wagon

Introducing the passenger vehicle that combines all-around performance and lifestyle space—the SUZUKI APV, All-Purpose Vehicle.

All-round performance
For an 8-passenger vehicle, it's compact and easy to maneuver. It packs enough power being the only one in its class equipped with a 1.6-liter, 16-valve aluminum engine and 4-speed automatic transmission.

All round comfort
Strategically designed with good ground clearance and high air intake, the SUZUKI APV gives you a smoother drive even in rough road conditions. And with its dual airconditioner system, your family enjoys a more comfortable ride.

All round convenience and value
Inexpensive maintenance items all within arms reach, as they are all neatly stored under the hood. Also, it has a 3-piece front bumper that makes for easy and inexpensive replacement.

APV Mobile living

SUZUKI
Way of Life!

MANILA
SUZUKI AUTO EDSA
Pilhino Sales Corporation
EDSA cor. Madison St.,
Mandaluyong
634-3451 to 57

SUZUKI AUTO MAKATI
Heidelberg Motor Corporation
JANNOV Plaza, Chino Roces Ave. Ext.,
Makati City
867-8183 to 87

SUZUKI AUTO COMMONWEALTH
Prince Motor Corporation
43 Commonwealth Avenue,
Quezon City
951-2201 to 10

SUZUKI AUTO QUEZON AVENUE
Sunny Motors Group, Inc.
1142 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City
374-3911 / 411-2720

LUZON
SUZUKI AUTO DAGUPAN
Amianan Motors
National Highway, Ambonao,
Calasiao, Pangasinan
(075) 517-1717 / 8888 / 9999

SUZUKI AUTO PAMPANGA
Family Cars, Inc.
McArthur Highway, San Agustin,
City of San Fernando, Pampanga
(045) 961-7746 / 860-5971

SUZUKI AUTO LEGASPI
Lisam Motors
408 Rizal St., Cabangan,
Legaspi City
(054) 472-3577 / 472-3659

SUZUKI AUTO CABANATUAN
Prince Motor Corporation
Maharlika Highway,
Cabanatuan City
(044) 463-5248 / 463-0089

VISAYAS
SUZUKI AUTO BACOLOD
Automall Motor Sales
Manor Bldg.,
Araneta St.,
Singcang,
Bacolod City
(034) 435-0266

MINDANAO
SUZUKI AUTO CAGAYAN DE ORO
Anflo Motor Corporation
Mindanao Motor Compound, Corrales Ave.,
Cagayan de Oro City
(088) 227-26357

SUZUKI AUTO ZAMBOANGA
Arcef Marketing, Inc.
Veterans Ave. cor. Tomas Claudio St.,
Zamboanga City
(063) 991-1494 / 991-1126

SUZUKI AUTO DAVAO
Motormall Davao Corporation
Bo. Pampanga, Sasa,
Davao City
(082) 233-1140 / 234-0390

SUZUKI AUTO BUTUAN
Sterling Motor Corporation
J. C. Aquino Ave., KM 3 Libertad,
Butuan City
(085) 342-5885 / 341-9756

Station to continue radioman's crusade

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—The family, relatives, friends and fellow workers of Rolando Morales brought the slain radio commentator to his final resting place on Sunday afternoon.

Emir Bariquit, program director of dxMD Radyo Agong here, told the INQUIRER that the death of Morales did not necessarily mean the end of the station's "Tingog sa Barangay" program.

Morales was gunned down by eight motorcycle-riding men on July 3 while he was on his way home aboard his own motorcycle.

"Definitely, somebody will take over. The program will go on to continue his advocacy and crusade," Bariquit said.

Bariquit added that the program would follow its usual commentary format, which focused on tackling issues and problems affecting the barangays.

Senior Supt. Rolando Dalangin, chief of the Task Force Morales created by PNP Chief Director General Arturo Lomibao, told reporters that he already had in his possession a list of suspects in the murder.

Dalangin said several witnesses had executed sworn statements.

Once the documents are completed, he said, charges would be immediately filed against the suspects.

Some of the suspects are reportedly members of the police force of Polomolok town, South Cotabato. Dalangin refused to identify the policemen and how many they were so as not to jeopardize the case.

The Morales family urged the police to speed up the resolution of the case.

Lomibao, during his visit here last week, assured the victim's family that the police would do everything to immediately solve the case. *Aquiles Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Free meals, perks keep docs in gov't hospital

NAGA CITY—Struggling to sustain medical services to the public amid the brain drain and tight government budget, a public hospital here gives resident doctors free meals and an assurance of allowing private practice if only to keep them stay longer.

Dr. Ruben Peñafiel, chief of the medical professional staff of the Bicol Medical Center (BMC), said the BMC had successfully encouraged resident doctors to renew their appointments after their four-year residency training by providing them these perks.

But he warned that the perks were not long-term solutions to the continuing exodus of government doctors because of the low salaries they received.

Last year alone, he said, the BMC lost three doctors who had restudied and passed the nursing board and had left to work in hospitals abroad.

The hospital doctors are also overworked on a 36-hour duty. They receive salaries ranging from P15,000 to P22,000 per month, he said.

He said 29 positions for doctors at the BMC had remained vacant and that the hospital had not received any applicants for the past three years.

"The BMC, a 500-bed capacity hospital, has only three pediatricians even though the required number is 16. For anesthesiologists, we need 12 doctors but we only have one here. And also, out of the eight required, we only have one ophthalmologist," the doctor revealed.

Peñafiel said they hired consultants who work part-time and full-time to ease the shortage of doctors and specialists.

Records showed that the BMC had 58 doctors on consultancy status, 50 resident doctors, and 36 medical professionals assigned in the hospital's laboratories.

It has 115 nurses, three midwives, 52 aides and 41 other attendants.

Peñafiel said that compared to plantilla positions in public hospitals with a 500-bed capacity that the Department of Budget and Management released last month, the BMC was allowed to take in 1,250 personnel.

But, he said, it could not increase its number of personnel and medical professionals and specialists without advice from the DBM although it had a total of only 543 plantilla positions at present.

He said the growing number of patients was overwhelmingly more than the BMC could handle because of the lack of medical personnel.

He said the big disparity between the number of doctors and patients admitted to the BMC has overloaded their capacity by 40 percent.

"Ideally, the occupancy rate of a public hospital, like the BMC, must be at the maximum of 85 percent in any given time. Here, the overall occupancy rate has reached 125 percent," he added. *Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Malaria persists in GenSan

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—Another person died of cerebral malaria on July 4, bringing to three the total number of fatalities since the disease broke out last month.

Apopong village chair Delia Rabanes identified the latest victim as Nenita Mengkok, of Purok Lorenzo, the hardest-hit part of the village.

Rabanes said their record shows 88 victims of malaria in riverside communities of Lorenzo, Olaer and Foremost.

More than a week ago, health authorities declared that the malaria disease in the area had been contained.

The officials also clarified that there was no malaria outbreak.

The barangay council has passed a resolution declaring the entire village under a state of calamity.

The city treasurer's office, however, has yet to release the P330,000 calamity fund for Apopong.

Rabanes said she took the initiative of opening a credit line with a drug company to supply the medicines needed by her constituents who were hospitalized due to malaria.

The village chair was wondering why many residents were still afflicted by the disease despite the declaration by the city health officials that malaria had been contained.

In Cotabato City, dengue cases were reported rising, with four fatalities recorded this year. This prompted the mayor to declare July 15 an anti-dengue clean-up drive.

A total of 202 residents have been afflicted with the disease this year, according to city health officer Dr. Abdullah Samama.

"[This] is very alarming already, although it is not yet [considered] an epidemic," Samama said.

The number of cases, Samama said, already surpassed last year's figure of only 127 cases.

"That's for the whole year of 2004, but now it has reached the 200 mark while we are still in the middle part of the year."

Mayor Muslimin Sema said the anti-dengue campaign would require constituents to clean their surroundings, including the emptying of bottles, cans, receptacles and other possible breeding places of dengue-carrying mosquitoes.

City government employees will be mobilized to assist residents in carrying out the drive, which starts at 3 p.m. with the sounding of the siren. At 4 p.m., trash and other non-biodegradable materials would be burned around housing areas so that the smoke would drive away, if not annihilate, dengue mosquitoes.

Samama did not identify the four fatalities but said one of them was a 78-year-old resident of Barangay Rosary Heights.

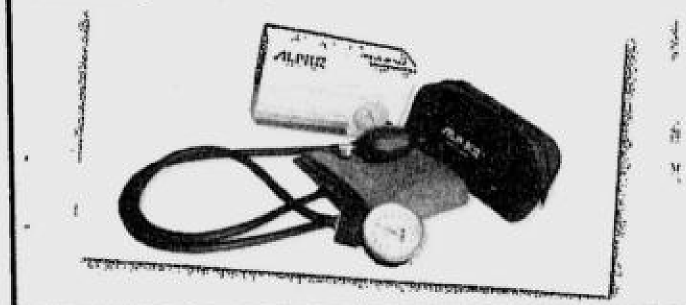
Health authorities have attributed the dengue outbreak to changing weather. Considered infectious, the disease is marked by severe pains in the head, eyes, muscles and joints, Dr. Ariadne Silongan said.

Silongan, who heads the state-run Cotabato Regional and Medical Center here, urged family members, especially children afflicted with fever, to immediately consult a doctor. *Aquiles Zonio and Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

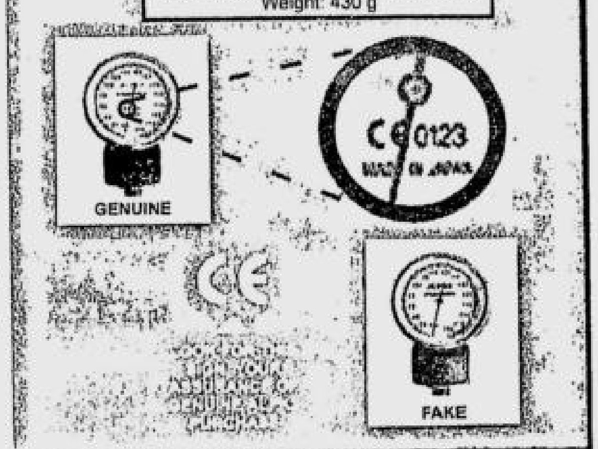
BEWARE OF FAKE!

Beware of imitation ALPK2 sphygmomano-meters being sold in the market today. These counterfeit products are of inferior quality and do not contain the original CE mark on its manometer head. Only Medical Center Trading Corp. distributes the original ALPK2 aneroid product line in the Philippines.

For your protection, buy only from authorized Medical Center Trading Corp. dealers or look for the CE mark on your ALPK2's manometer head to be assured of a genuine ALPK2 purchase.



ANEROID SPHYGMOMANOMETER
(Blood Pressure Monitor)
Manometer: 20-300mmHg
Accuracy: 3mmHg
Air System: Velcro Cuff with Latex Bag
Weight: 430 g



Visit Our Showroom at the 2nd floor, Mercury Drug Glorietta 3 Makati City, EDSA Shangri-La Plaza and Ayala Cebu

Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St. Cor. Shaw Blvd. Pasig City
Tels. 631-1716 • 631-9356 • 637-9504
Fax: (0632) 631-7809 • E-mail medcen@pfo.com.ph

MANILA 71-6374
PASIG 31-5715
LIPA (043) 757-2351
PAMPANGA (045) 961-7892
CEBU (32) 254-2367
DAVAO (082) 222-4404
ILOILO (033) 320-1413
URDANETA (75) 568 7399

Available at mercury drug Stores Nationwide

RoyalCaribbean INTERNATIONAL Get out there.

Celebrity X Cruises

7-NIGHT ALASKA, HUBBARD GLACIER CRUISE
onboard Celebrity's "MERCURY"

FOR AS LOW AS:	CRUISE ONLY	FLY/CRUISE
INSIDE CABIN	$ 630.00	$ 1,640.00
OUTSIDE CABIN	930.00	1,940.00
3RD/4TH PASSENGER	230.00	1,240.00
PORT CHARGES	203.50	per person

SAILING DATE: August 12 & 19

7-NIGHT CANADA AND NEW ENGLAND CRUISE
onboard RCI's "ENCHANTMENT OF THE SEAS"

FOR AS LOW AS:	CRUISE ONLY	FLY/CRUISE
INSIDE CABIN	$ 900.00	$ 2,050.00
PORT CHARGES	173.80	per person

SAILING DATE: September 11

12-NIGHT CANADA AND NEW ENGLAND CRUISE
onboard Celebrity's "CONSTELLATION"

FOR AS LOW AS:	CRUISE ONLY	FLY/CRUISE
INSIDE CABIN	$ 1,171.00	$ 2,121.00
OUTSIDE CABIN	1,341.00	2,291.00
3RD/4TH PASSENGER	581.00	1,531.00
PORT CHARGES	254.30	per person

SAILING DATE: October 5

13-NIGHT BEST OF EUROPE CRUISE
onboard Celebrity's "CENTURY"

FOR AS LOW AS:	CRUISE ONLY	FLY/CRUISE
INSIDE CABIN	$ 1,660.00	$ 2,735.00
OUTSIDE CABIN	2,130.00	3,205.00
3RD/4TH PASSENGER	780.00	1,855.00
PORT CHARGES	247.80	per person

SAILING DATE: August 20

10-NIGHT MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE
Onboard Celebrity's "CENTURY"

FOR AS LOW AS:	CRUISE ONLY	FLY/CRUISE
OUTSIDE CABIN	$ 1,455.00	$ 2,405.00
3RD/4TH PASSENGER	455.00	1,405.00
PORT CHARGES	215.80	per person

SAILING DATE: September 2

11-NIGHT MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE
Onboard Celebrity's "CENTURY"

FOR AS LOW AS:	CRUISE ONLY	FLY/CRUISE
INSIDE CABIN	$ 1,085.00	$ 2,035.00
3RD/4TH PASSENGER	505.00	1,455.00
PORT CHARGES	213.10	per person

SAILING DATE: September 12

ALL RATES AND CABIN AVAILABILITY ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Call your preferred travel agent or
Royal Caribbean International & Celebrity Cruises

Tel. Nos.: 894-3957, 892-2702, 892-2703 or send your inquiries by fax at 892-2790
e-mail: rylcaribbean@arpanair.com.ph
Cebu: c/o Baron Travel (Cebu) Nos.: (032) 255-6095 to 96 or Fax to (032) 254-5344
e-mail:btc-outbound@pacific.net.ph
Website: www.royalcaribbeanphil.com/www.celebritycruisesphil.com

Winner of two prestigious marketing awards!

12th Asia-Pacific Excellence Awards
MOST OUTSTANDING
SLEEPING SUPPLEMENT

Philippine Marketing Excellence Awards
MOST OUTSTANDING
SLEEPING SUPPLEMENT

TRIANON
MELATONIN-T
3 mg.
FOOD SUPPLEMENT
30 CAPSULES

✓ Sleep better!
✓ Feel better!
✓ Look better!
✓ MELATONIN-T

Take 1-2 capsules 30 minutes before bedtime.

From TRIANON International, Inc. 815-3239, Pasong Tamo Ext. Makati City, Philippines. Provincial Distributors are welcome.
Available in all MERCURY and WATSONS Drugstores nationwide.

People's Choice

SUPERBRAND HALL OF FAME

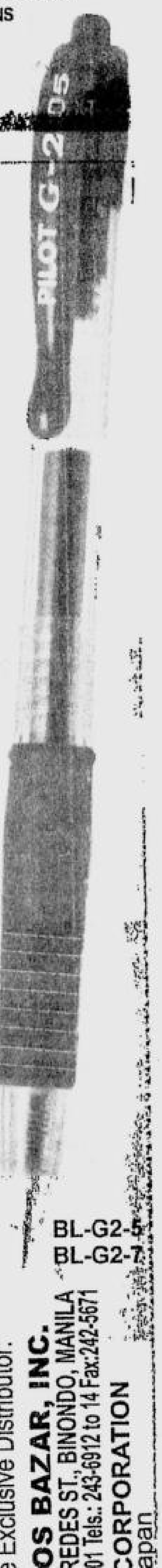
voted by readers SUPER BRAND Reader's Digest Philippines

SUPER BRAND GOLD 2005
SUPER BRAND PLATINUM 2004
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2003
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2002
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2001
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2000
SUPER BRAND GOLD 1999

PILOT

Smooth Advancement in writing technology

G-2
Retractable
BALL POINT
PENS



BL-G2-5
BL-G2-7

Philippine Exclusive Distributor:
COSMOS BAZAR, INC.
571 Q. PAREDES ST., BINONDO, MANILA
P.O. BOX 1601 Tels.: 243-6912 to 14 Fax:242-5671
PILOT CORPORATION
Tokyo, Japan

MNLF leaders doubt bloodshed will resume if GMA won't quit

COTABATO CITY—The Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) Executive Council of 15 cast doubt on the claim of a Moro group that hostilities will erupt in Mindanao should President Macapagal-Arroyo refuse to step down.

Muslimin Sema, MNLF secretary general and council member, laughed off the warning of former MNLF leader Ahmad Bayam of the Philippine Muslim Solidarity Council (PMSC) that his group would return to the hills and wage another war.

"If she will not resign, it will fast-track hostilities in Mindanao. Madam, we beg you to be bold enough to step down," Bayam said in a press conference on Saturday in Manila.

Sema, who is also mayor of this city, said he doubted "if they can still go back to the mountains or they have [enough] people [to wage a war]. Bayam, a former MNLF leader in Maguindanao, did not say how large his group was.

The majority of the MNLF members still support the President despite their different choices of candidates in the ARMM (Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao) elections, Sema said.

"We still support President Arroyo," he said on behalf of the Council of 15, which claims to be the main MNLF faction.

Sema said Bayam might have to prove that he could carry out his warning. "I don't want to discredit them [but] let them prove the so-called eruption of hostilities."

Ghadzali Jaafar, political affairs chief of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), said his group could not comment yet on the warning aired by the PMSC.

"The issues they raise will still be the subject of discussion by the [MILF] Central Committee. We will issue a statement in due time," Jaafar said.

Prof. Abhoud Syed Lingga, chair of the Institute for Bangsamoro Studies, also expressed uncertainty over the PMSC's warning.

"I don't [think] it will happen because the only big rebel group in Mindanao right now is the MILF. And they expressed commitment to the peace process whoever is the President," Lingga said.

In General Santos City, an influential business executive, who previously rejected calls for Ms Arroyo to resign, said he had changed his mind.

Manuel Yaphuckon, president of the General Santos City Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said the President should now heed the call of her resigned Cabinet members to make a supreme sacrifice by stepping down.

"Something has to change. We can't go on like this. We have to move forward," Yaphuckon said.

He said only Ms Arroyo's resignation could defuse the tension building up because of the "Hello Garci" tapes, which allegedly indicated instances that she cheated in the May 2004 presidential elections.

Yaphuckon said he was sad over the resignation of the Cabinet members. They were really working hard to serve the country, he said.

He cited one of them, former Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima, who hails from this city. "I know him personally. He's an asset of the government. He worked very hard to help this country," he said.

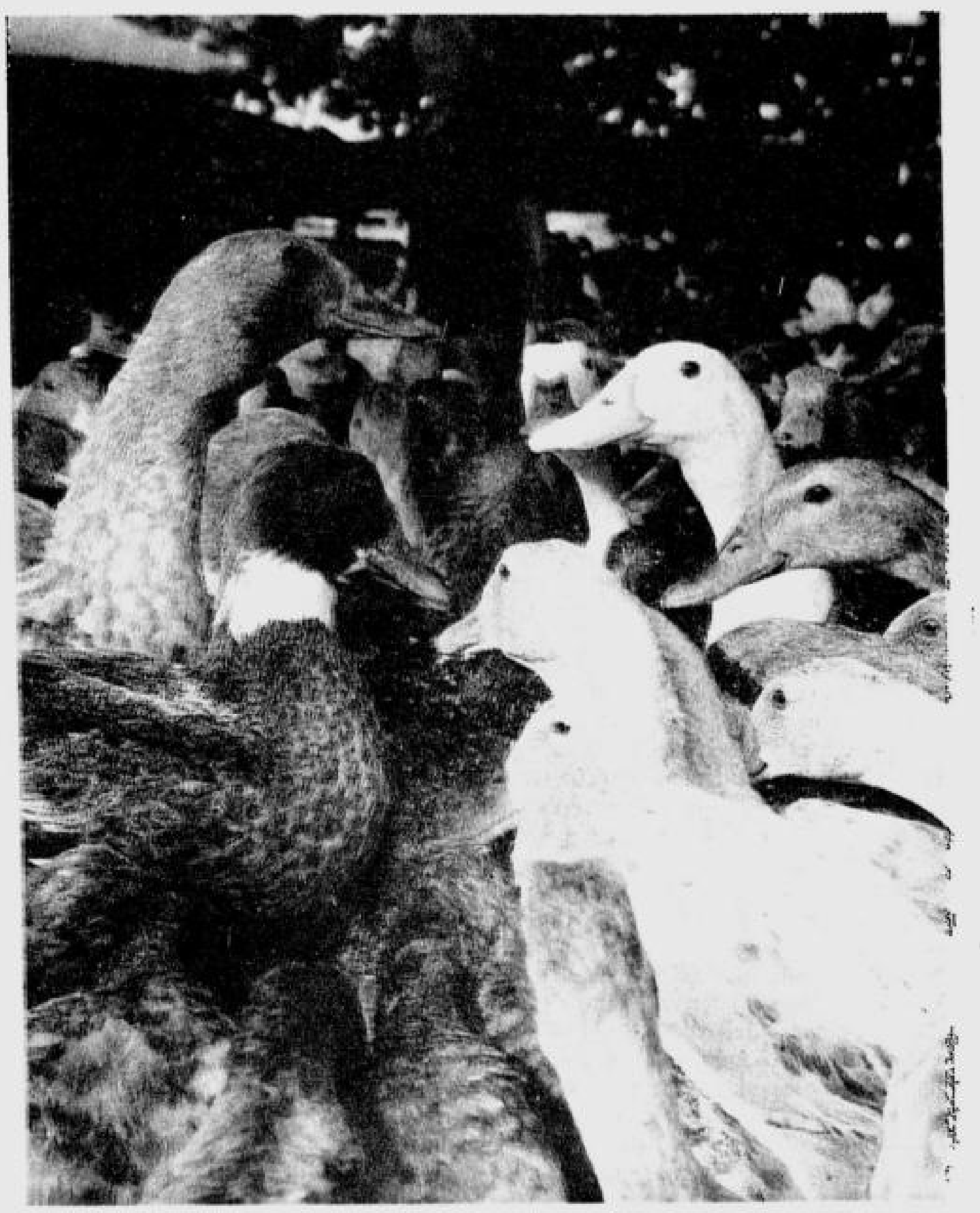
Because of the resignations, the economy would plunge deeper than before, Yaphuckon said.

In Mati, Davao Oriental, Leo Sibala, chair of the National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections, said only the President's resignation could "heal the deeply divided nation."

Sibala said that although the conduct of election in his place was "generally peaceful and honest," he believed that Ms Arroyo did not win in the election.

"I regret to have voted for her, I was wrong, I thought she was honest," Sibala, son of former Gov. Josefina Sibala, said.

House Majority Leader Prospero Nograles earlier told those calling for Ms Arroyo's ouster to respect the rule of law. *Jeoffrey Maitem, Aquiles Z. Zonio, Anthony S. Allada, Ferdinand O. Zuasola and Germelina A. Lacorte, PDI Mindanao Bureau*



THESE ducks in Calumpit, Bulacan are in great danger of being slaughtered if laboratory tests confirm a bird flu strain has infected those coming from a farm in the town. REUTERS

ROUNDUP

Mangyan Bantay Gubat

BONGABONG, Oriental Mindoro—An organization of Mangyan-Buhid people plans to form a "Bantay Gubat" (forest watchdog) team in response to problems of illegal logging and forest fires. The proposal surfaced in a seminar of the Sadik Habanan Buhid Inc., in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, during the tribal group's annual assembly on June 29. The participants expressed enthusiasm in setting up the forest protection team.

Madonna T. Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Enough supply of cheap rice

CABANATUAN CITY—An official of the National Food Authority in Nueva Ecija assured residents that the agency has enough supply of cheap rice to cope with demand during the lean months. Adelino Alejandro, NFA provincial manager, said 350,000 bags of rice were ready for distribution anytime at the agency's warehouses. Prices of commercial rice in the market range from P21 to P25 per kg and have reportedly been rising amid the political scandals and increase in prices of fuel and other commodities. Traders bought the current *palay* harvest at P10.50 to P13.50 a kg, compared to the past buying price of below P8.

Anselmo Roque, PDI Central Luzon Desk

'Hook' dies

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—A 13-year-old false killer whale (*Pseudorca crassidens*) at the Ocean Adventure water park here died on Friday. The female whale named "Hook" suffered from a brief illness, which appeared to be gastro-intestinal related, before it died at 1 p.m. at the park, a statement from the Ocean Adventure said. Park officials said they had yet to determine the cause of death as results of laboratory tests on tissue samples were not yet available.

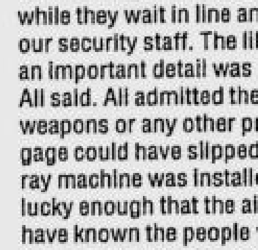
PDI Central Luzon Desk

Blast rocks housing area

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—Crimes in Polomolok town, South Cotabato remain unsolved despite heightened security and the arrival of reinforcement from the provincial police. On Friday night, a grenade exploded at the residential compound in Purok Matulungin, Barangay Lumakil. Noel Malana, the owner of the compound, told reporters that the explosion damaged a concrete wall of his house. No one was hurt in the attack.

Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau

X-ray machine for airport



CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—Finally, the Lumbia Airport here has an X-ray machine to check on passengers' baggages. In the past, passengers had to wait in line as security personnel manually check baggages. Chief Insp. Ali Hadji Ali, station chief of the Aviation Security Group at Lumbia Airport, told the INQUIRER that checking of luggages was too complicated and did not guarantee security. "Some passengers got irked with the whisking and the opening of their luggage while they wait in line and it was also a burden to our security staff. The likelihood of missing out an important detail was possible at that time," Ali said. Ali admitted the possibility that weapons or any other prohibited hand carry luggage could have slipped before the P7-million X-ray machine was installed last week. "We are lucky enough that the airport is small and we have known the people who are flying in and out. It was quite easy for us to detect suspicious looking passengers," Ali said.

Grace Cantal-Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Korean firm denies running Cebu coal-fired power plant

ILOILO CITY—The Korean Electric Corp. (Kepco) has clarified that it does not operate the coal-fired power plant in Cebu that has been tagged by environmental groups as among those emitting hazardous substances.

In a two-page statement sent to the INQUIRER on July 4, Guillermo Dabbay Jr., general manager of Kepco's legal and external affairs group, said the power firm is operating only two power plants in the country, both of them in Luzon.

Dabbay said Kepco has plans of putting up a 200-megawatt coal-fired plant in Cebu using the ash pond of the power plant presently operated by the Salcon Power Corp. in Naga town, Cebu.

But he said the project was "still in the preliminary stages."

If the project proceeds, Dabbay said Kepco will use the Circulating Fluidized Bed Combustion (CFBC) technology. The CFBC "has been proven to be compliant with existing environmental standards," he said.

Last May, the international environment group Greenpeace issued a report alleging that the coal-fired power plants in Naga and Toledo City were emitting toxic substances.

The report erroneously identified the plant in Naga as being operated by Kepco when it was actually being operated by Salcon.

Dabbay said Kepco through its Philippine subsidiary Kepco-Philippines (Kephilco) and Kepco-Ilijan Corp. (Keilco) operates the 600-MW Malaya thermal power plant in Pililla in Rizal and the 1200-mw natural gas power in Ilijan, Batangas.

The Rizal plant primarily uses oil while the Ilijan plant uses natural gas sourced from the Malampaya gas fields.

He said the plants have not been cited for any violation of environmental laws by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. *Nestor P. Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau*

Police stop sale, transport of poultry in Bulacan town

CALUMPIT, Bulacan—Police teams have been sent here to monitor the movement of poultry products in the town following the discovery of a bird flu strain among ducks grown in a village farm here.

Dr. Jose Molina, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, said the police were tasked with preventing the sale and transport of poultry products to stop the possible spread of the avian flu virus.

Molina said the police were monitoring a 3-km quarantine zone around the affected village.

On Friday, Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap said at least three ducks in a small farm in this town were found to have H5, a "low-pathogen" strain of avian influenza.

Molina said the monitoring would be imposed for at least a week pending the results of laboratory tests of blood samples taken from the infected ducks. The blood samples were taken to Australia.

He said the BAI would sustain its monitoring and testing of all fowls in poultry farms in nearby areas.

Gloria Carillo, DA director in Bulacan, said the BAI detected the bird flu strain following random testing in the town.

Carillo said the tests were made to ensure that local fowls had not been infected with the virus possibly carried by migratory birds that had stayed at the nearby Candaba Swamp in Pampanga.

She said residents here should not be alarmed because the low risk strain of the virus does not endanger human health.

Mayor James de Jesus asked residents to stay calm amid the discovery of the bird flu strain here.

He asked other duck farm and poultry owners in the town to temporarily stop selling or eating poultry products until further notice from the BAI.

He said agriculture and health officials have given the farm owners disinfectants and have asked them to clean the farms and their surroundings.

Molina clarified there was no outbreak of the virus because the strain found on the ducks was not H5N1. *Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Baguio, Benguet towns agree to preserve water sources

BAGUIO CITY—The mayors of Baguio and four neighboring Benguet towns have come up with an agreement to protect their water sources against private concessionaires to increase domestic tap water for their residents.

Mayor Braulio Yaranon said the city and officials of the towns of La Trinidad, Itogon, Tuba and Sablan have agreed to stake their control over their territorial water sources, which have been licensed to private firms by the National Water Resources Board (NWRB).

Yaranon said the agreement requires these governments to develop their own resources first before they tap the water sources of their neighboring towns.

Baguio, which has been rationing water to its residents, has been tapped to pilot a water management practice being introduced by the International Council of Local Government Initiatives (Iclei).

The Iclei protocol offers local governments practical management systems that will help them maximize their own water resources.

The local governments are studying water conservation proposals that have been offered by mountain engineers.

Yaranon received this week several copies of the studies made by Janice Kaye Lacsamana and Mina Rose Pasion, said Dr. Cleofe Basaen, graduate school dean of the University of the Cordilleras.

The studies of Lacsamana and Pasion were graduation prerequisites in April from the country's only mountain engineering graduate course that is jointly offered by the UC, the Benguet State University (BSU) and the Saint Louis University (SLU).

Pasion developed a drainage system for Busol watershed, which is shared by the city and La Trinidad.

The Local Water Utilities Administration, in an April report, said Baguio could only extract 1.4 million cubic meters of water each year from its aquifer because of the city's rising population.

But Baguio has not yet tapped its high annual rainfall and has experienced flooding due to the clogged drainage system and concrete roads and structures in major sections of the city's business district.

Pasion's study designs a series of canals and dams for the watershed to help contain and direct rainwater to the city aquifer.

Other towns have launched their independent water conservation initiatives.

Itogon Mayor Mario Godio and Lomino Kaniteng, chair of the town's water district, prepared on June 5 a campaign to discourage small-scale miners from using mercury after recent environmental studies indicate that Itogon's water sources contain significant, "yet still tolerable," traces of the liquid metal.

The findings of a study commissioned by the San Roque Power Corp. are of "extreme interest" to Itogon because it is trying to secure enough water tributaries and rivers to begin servicing water to its residents, Kaniteng said. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Puerto Princesa declares 25-year mining moratorium

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—After rejecting a mining proponent to explore three barangays here a month ago, the city council has passed a resolution declaring this city mining-free for 25 years.

The ordinance declaring a mining moratorium in Puerto was approved amid a call of President Macapagal-Arroyo to welcome mining investments.

The President declared southern Palawan open for mining during her last visit to inaugurate a nickel-processing plant in Bataraza, Palawan.

As a result, more than 100 mining applications have been filed for Palawan, more than 60 of which are in the southern part, according to records from the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff, an environmental policy-making body in the province.

The council invoked the Local Government Code (LGC) provision on the policy of the state that territorial and political subdivisions shall enjoy genuine and meaningful autonomy.

The resolution further pointed out the LGC provision that states that "within their respective territorial jurisdictions, LGUs shall ensure and support, among other things, the preservation and enrichment of culture, promote health and safety, enhance the right of the people to a balanced ecology, and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants."

To preserve the remaining natural resources of Puerto Princesa and Palawan, the city prohibited all mining activities in the city.

The ordinance said, "it shall be unlawful for any person or business entity to engage in land clearing, prospecting, exploration, drilling, excavation, mining, transport or mineral ores and such other activities in furtherance or preparation for mining explorations."

It added that "no project or program shall be implemented by government authorities without consultation [with] the city government and without prior approval from the city council.

Ordinance No. 279 was approved at last week's session of the council but it has yet to be signed by Mayor Edward Hagedorn, who himself had long before declared that mining has no space in the city.

The decision of the council was hailed by nongovernment organizations advocating for a mining-free Palawan.

"We praise and we give recognition to the political will of the city government for passing the mining moratorium ordinance. We believe that this shows the city government's true love for the people and the environment," said Cleofe Bernardino, executive director of the Palawan NGO Network Inc., the umbrella organization of almost all NGOs in the province.

Bernardino said they were quick to criticize the government for policies against the environment but they also appreciated the meaningful legislations such as this one.

PNNI immediately prepared a streamer commending the mayor and the city council for the move.

"We love the mayor and the city council for this. We salute the LGU of the city for asserting its right as a local government over natural resources, unlike the other LGUs that easily succumb to the President's pronouncement of opening mining all over the country," Bernardino added.

She hoped that this will be replicated by other municipalities.

Majority floor leader Rogelio Castro, during previous interviews, said the city had since been consistent with its position.

He said the city had a bad experience with Palawan Quick Silver Mines in Barangay Sta. Lourdes. Up to the present, mercury coming from the former mine site can still be traced in the waters of Honda Bay and a number of people living nearby were contaminated with mercury.

He added that the thrust of the city government is tourism and the comprehensive land use plan of the city does not identify mining as an allowable activity considering that it is resource extractive that threatens the health and safety of the people and has hazardous impact to the environment.

On the other hand, the provincial council recently endorsed the mining application of Platinum Group of Metals Corp. and Olympic Mines Development Corp. in southern Palawan. *Jofelle P. Tesorio, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Execs probed on links to Batangas 'mafia'

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—Calabarzon police on Saturday said they were investigating the alleged links of several top elected officials and police officers to a criminal group that engaged lawmen in a shootout on Thursday night.

Senior Supt. Aaron Fidel, regional police director for intelligence, said probers were running after several government officials who acted as protectors and coddlers of the notorious Black Shark Gang (BSG), often referred to by police as the "Mafia of Batangas."

Five BSG members, including their alleged leader Ricardo Manalo, and a policeman were killed in a shootout in the gang's hideout in Barangay San Fernando in Malvar, Batangas.

Fidel said the group was behind the death of Guillermo Gamo, the resident Ombudsman of the provincial government, who was gunned down while he was on his way to work on May 30.

"The group is protected by high-ranking government officials and police officers. They celebrated after Gamo was killed," Fidel said in a text message sent to the INQUIRER.

Fidel, however, declined to name the public officials. "We are now establishing their [direct] link," he added.

An INQUIRER source disclosed that among the "big bosses" of the group was an incumbent mayor of a big town in Batangas.

The source, who asked not to be identified for fear of his life, said the mayor's brother, who is a former barangay chair in Batangas, was one of the gang's founders.

The BSG, he said, was engaged in oil pilferage, hijacking, highway robberies and assassination missions.

The official said the BSG was "untouchable" in the province because of the protection it enjoys from unscrupulous government officials.

He likewise disclosed that even members of the local police were afraid to launch operations against the gang members.

"BSG is really powerful in Batangas. They can even order the killing of any policeman in an instance," the source said.

Police identified Manalo's men who were killed in Thursday's encounter as Jose Lalog, Joel de las Alas, Albert Bardon and a certain Bernando Nabor. *Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

GERMAN SPOUSE HURT

Justice sought for slain fisheries teacher in Aklan

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—The family of fisheries teacher and conservationist Ma. Paz Pangantihon-Kuhlmann is seeking justice for her death and the wounding of her German husband, Kai Jens Kuhlmann.

"It is difficult to accept that the life of someone who has been helping a lot of common people, especially the fisherfolk, has been taken violently," said physician Socorro Pangantihon, younger sister of Paz.

"I pray that this will not be one of the unsolved cases in our country," she added.

Paz was shot dead on June 29 in their rented fishpond in Barangay Cabugao in Batan town, Aklan. She died from at least three bullet wounds, two of them in the heart, said Socorro.

Kai suffered from multiple bullet wounds that broke his jaw and collarbone and seriously damaged his stomach.

Wenefredo Nazareto, caretaker of the couple's fishpond, suffered a bullet wound in the leg.

Police identified the suspect as Rogelio Torralba, 58, owner of the 13-hectare fishpond that the couple was renting. He is now detained at the Batan police station.

Supt. William Macavinta, provincial police director, said a murder case had already been filed against Torralba for the death of Paz.

Police were also readying a separate charge of frustrated murder for the wounding of Kai, he added.

Macavinta said results of police investigations refuted Torralba's claims that he shot the couple in self-defense.

The suspect had told investigators that Kai berated him, ridiculed Filipinos and challenged him to a duel.

But Macavinta noted that "there was a clear intent to kill." There were also indications that the victims were finished off, he added.

The police director said the shooting was not in self-defense because of the number of wounds inflicted on the couple, and that the victims were unarmed and could not fight back.

Macavinta said Torralba had gotten angry with Kai for putting up a fence around the fishpond and had confronted the couple when they visited the property.

While they were talking, Torralba allegedly pulled out a 9-mm pistol and shot Kai. Paz was hit when she embraced her husband to shield him after he fell to the ground.

Nazareto tried to help the couple but was also shot by Torralba. He jumped into a nearby creek while he was under fire.

Paz died on the spot. Kai was taken to the Dr. Rafael Tumbokon Memorial Hospital in the capital town of Kalibo and later transferred to the St. Gabrielle Hospital. He was airlifted the next day to a hospital in Manila.

Socorro said Kai's condition was already stable.

She said it was impossible for Kai to berate Torralba because her brother-in-law was soft-spoken and had always avoided arguments.

"He could also not berate Filipinos because he is married to a Filipina," she said.

The couple had been living in Aklan since 2002. They have a 10-month-old son.

Kai, a development worker, had been helping fishing communities throughout the country. She served as consultant of the provincial planning and development office.

Judge's son charged with murder

SORSOGON CITY—Police filed on Friday a murder charge against the son of the executive judge of Sorsogon province for the death of a *balikbayan* on Thursday afternoon here.

PO3 Pedro Jimenez, officer-on-case, identified the suspect as Julius Madrid, 38, son of Executive Judge Jose Madrid, who is also the presiding judge of the Family Court, and an employee of the Bureau of Internal Revenue District office.

He identified the victim as Ariel Dino, 41, a balikbayan who had just arrived from Denmark.

Police investigation showed that Dino and Madrid had a heated argument after the suspect chanced upon the victim past 1 p.m. on Thursday, near the house of the suspect's estranged wife, who was identified as Tonette.

Jimenez, quoting witnesses, said Madrid passed by the house of his estranged wife and, upon seeing Dino talking with Tonette, alighted from his motorcycle and confronted the victim, which resulted in the stabbing of Dino.

Dino was declared dead on arrival at the Sorsogon Doctor's Hospital.

Madrid, who was in the custody of the city police, refused to give a statement to investigators, Jimenez said.

He said Madrid's wife had issued a sworn statement and was willing to testify against the suspect.

The case was set for preliminary investigation by city prosecutor Valentin Pura, Jimenez added. *Bobby Labalan, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Bugkalot vice mayor suspended

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—The first Bugkalot vice mayor in the province was suspended after two councilors in Alfonso Castañeda town filed an administrative case against him.

Gov. Luisa Cuaresma on Monday ordered the 60-day preventive suspension of Alfonso Castañeda Vice Mayor Jerry Pasigian over charges of abuse of authority filed by Councilors Danilo Castillo and Levi Gabogen.

Pasigian, a former village chair of Barangay Lipuga and ex-officio council member, is the highest-ranking Bugkalot native in the province to have been elected to public office.

In December last year, he became acting mayor following the three-month suspension of Mayor Alfredo Castillo Jr. over graft charges.

During that stint, Pasigian ordered the closure of the Casecnan multi-purpose irrigation and power project (CMIPP) for its failure to secure a business permit with the local government.

He had threatened to mobilize members of the Bugkalot tribe to barricade the roads leading to the CMIPP if its owners insisted on operating.

Gabogen alleged that Pasigian, as the council's presiding officer, committed abuse of authority when he called for a special session on Feb. 8 without giving prior notice to council members.

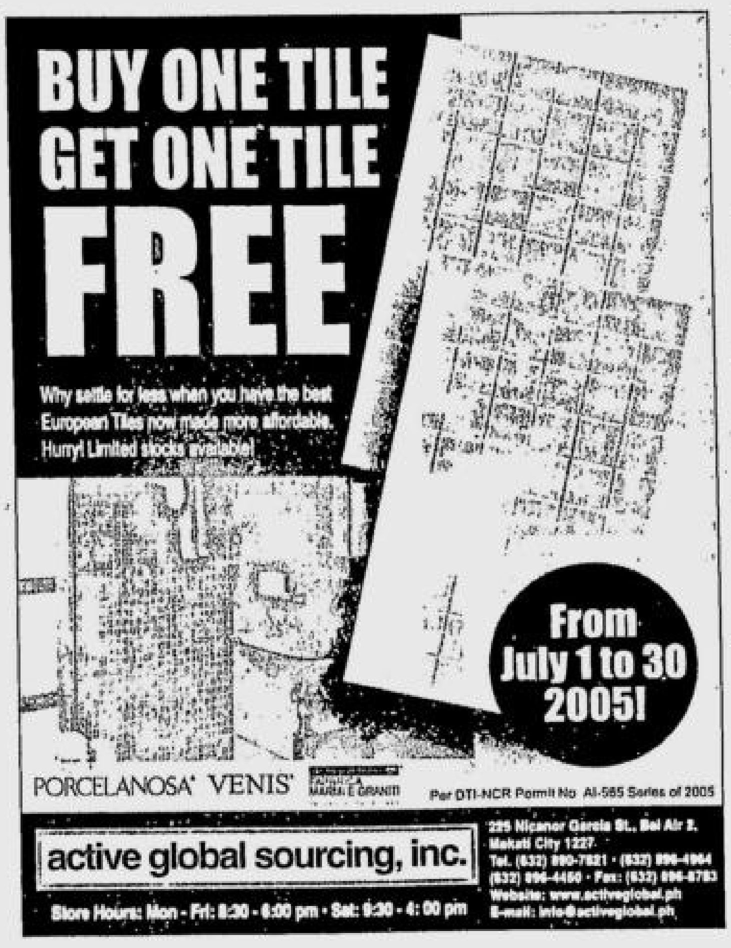
The complainants said Pasigian's move was meant to railroad the approval of measures and projects that he was pushing in the town council, and supposedly prevent other councilors from objecting to them.

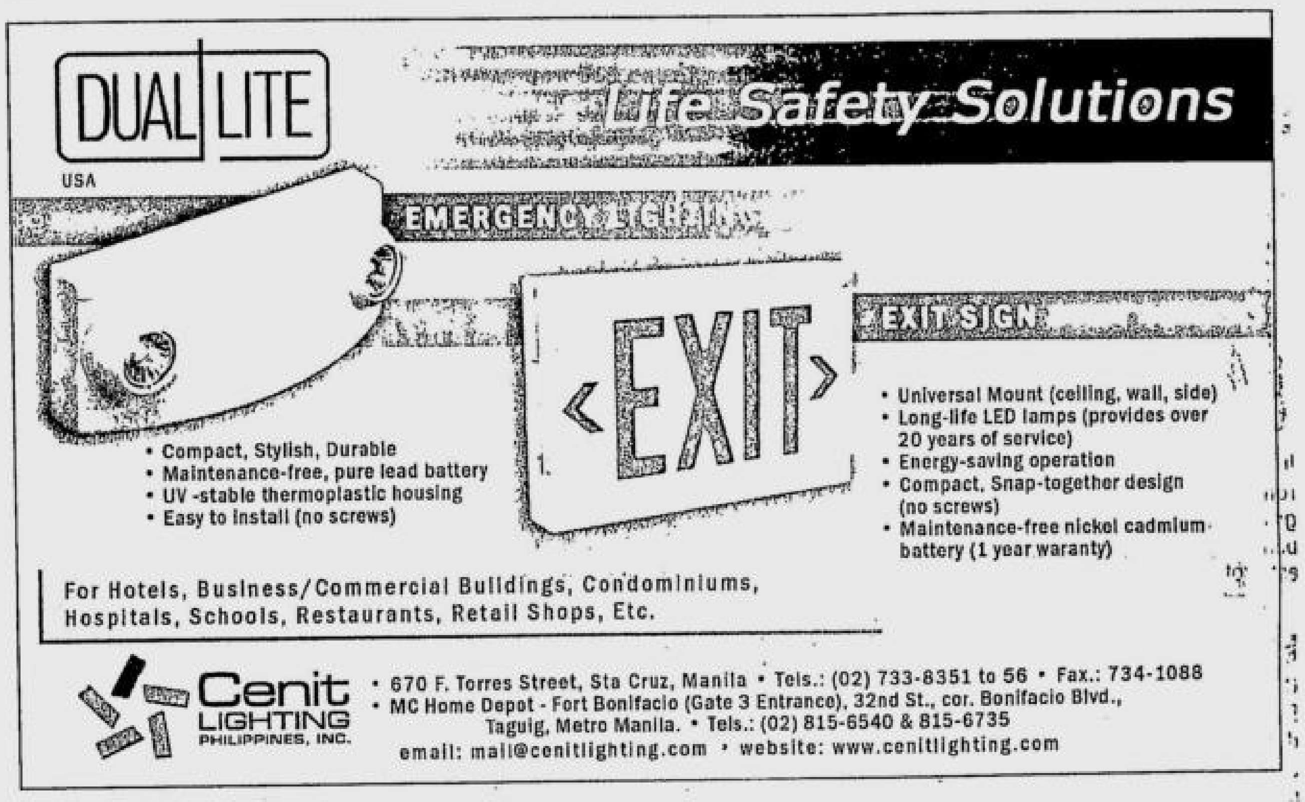
Pasigian's suspension took effect on Tuesday.

Pasigian could not be reached for comment. But in earlier interviews, he branded the case as politically motivated, and meant to harass him after he left the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino party and joined the administration party Lakas.

Cuaresma said Pasigian's suspension was necessary as "there is a great probability that [his continued stay] in office could influence the witnesses of the complainants." *Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

VALUE LIFE!
OXYGEN THERAPY SET
PORTABLE TYPE
WITH OXYGEN REGULATOR,
NASAL CANNULA,
ADULT MASK,
3-IN-1 STROLLER BAG
MEDICAL OXYGEN TANK (5 lbs. CAP)
Instant relief when you need it, where you need!
MOBILE TYPE
WITH OXYGEN REGULATOR,
NASAL CANNULA,
ADULT MASK,
MEDICAL OXYGEN TANK (15 lbs. CAP)
COMPLETE WITH TROLEY
The Ideal Breathing Kit for Indoor and Outdoor Use
Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St. Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
[illegible]
Pasig City · Manila City · Cebu City · Davao City · Iloilo City · Lipa City · Pampanga · Pangasinan
Available in all mercury drug Store Nationwide

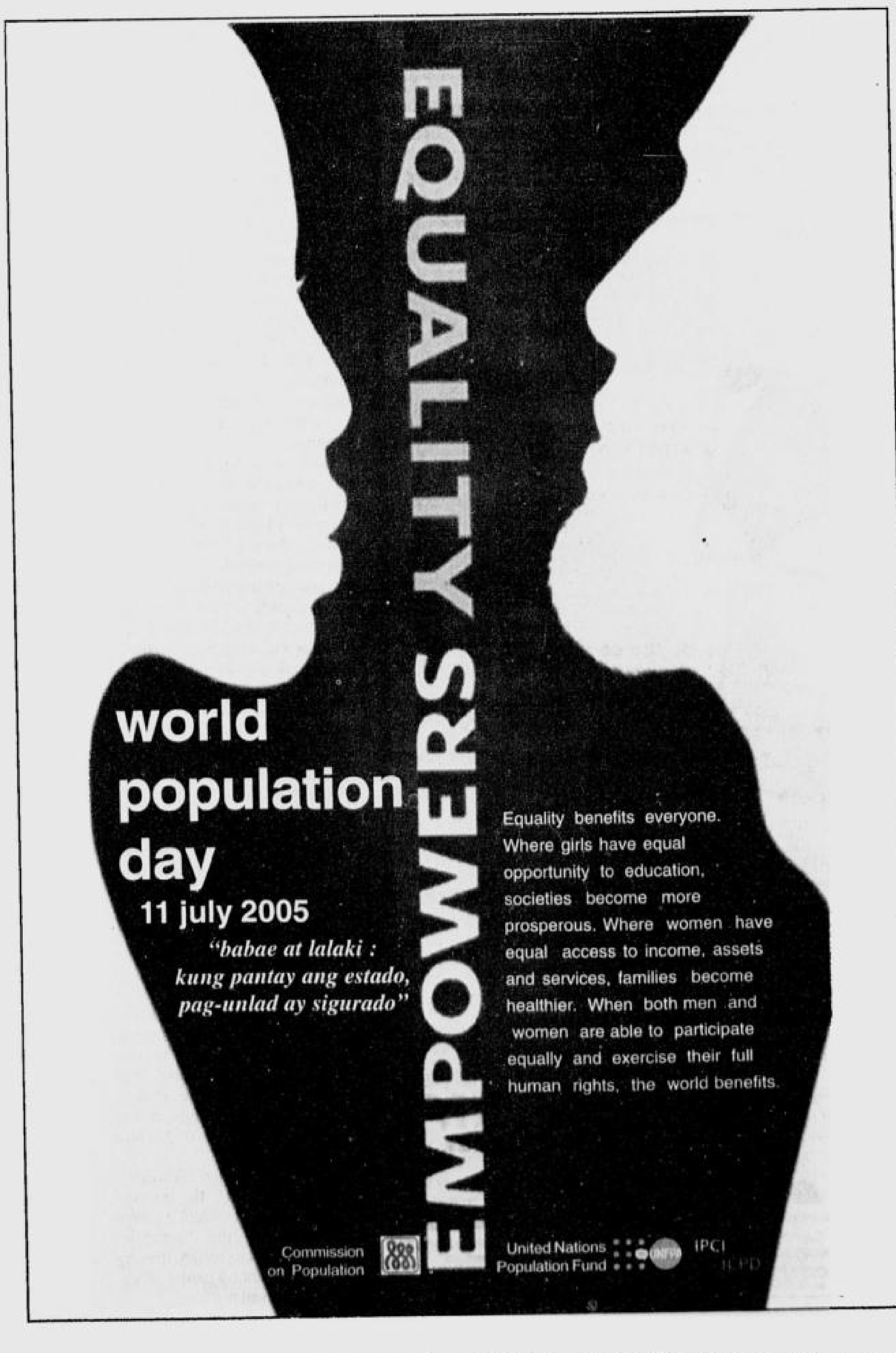

BUY ONE TILE
GET ONE TILE
FREE
Why settle for less when you have the best European Tiles now made more affordable. Hurry! Limited stocks available!
From July 1 to 30 2005!
PORCELANOSA VENIS
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. AI-565 Series of 2005
active global sourcing, inc.
225 Nicanor Garcia St., Bel Air 2, Makati City 1227
Tel. (632) 890-7821 · (632) 896-4064
(632) 896-4450 · Fax: (632) 896-6783
Website: www.activeglobal.ph
E-mail: info@activeglobal.ph
Store Hours: Mon - Fri: 8:30 - 6:00 pm · Sat: 9:30 - 4:00 pm


DUAL LITE
USA
Life Safety Solutions
EMERGENCY LIGHTING
- Compact, Stylish, Durable
- Maintenance-free, pure lead battery
- UV -stable thermoplastic housing
- Easy to install (no screws)

EXIT SIGN
- Universal Mount (ceiling, wall, side)
- Long-life LED lamps (provides over 20 years of service)
- Energy-saving operation
- Compact, Snap-together design (no screws)
- Maintenance-free nickel cadmium battery (1 year waranty)

For Hotels, Business/Commercial Buildings, Condominiums, Hospitals, Schools, Restaurants, Retail Shops, Etc.

Cenit LIGHTING PHILIPPINES, INC.
· 670 F. Torres Street, Sta Cruz, Manila · Tels.: (02) 733-8351 to 56 · Fax.: 734-1088
· MC Home Depot - Fort Bonifacio (Gate 3 Entrance), 32nd St., cor. Bonifacio Blvd., Taguig, Metro Manila. · Tels.: (02) 815-6540 & 815-6735
email: mail@cenitlighting.com · website: www.cenitlighting.com


EQUALITY EMPOWERS
world population day
11 july 2005
*"babae at lalaki :
kung pantay ang estado,
pag-unlad ay sigurado"*
Equality benefits everyone. Where girls have equal opportunity to education, societies become more prosperous. Where women have equal access to income, assets and services, families become healthier. When both men and women are able to participate equally and exercise their full human rights, the world benefits.
Commission on Population
United Nations Population Fund
IPCI
ICPD

CBCP shuns ...

ASKED if President Macapagal-Arroyo is a good Catholic, Archbishop Fernando Capalla (right), outgoing president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, shares a laugh with Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales (left) and Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal. JESS YUSON

From page A1

more than a month ago.

It followed the resignation of a third of Ms Arroyo's Cabinet on Friday that sparked a breakaway by her allies in universities, business and political sectors, including former President Corazon Aquino, and put the administration on the brink of collapse.

Any demand by the bishops for Ms Arroyo to quit would have sealed her fate in the overwhelmingly Catholic country, according to political analysts.

Light of wisdom

Obviously relieved, Rigoberto Tiglao, chief of the Presidential Management Staff, said the bishops' position represented "the light of spiritual wisdom we must all emulate."

"The CBCP position is a welcome glimmer of hope to a rather bleak situation," said administration Rep. Jose Salceda. Added Director Vidal Querol of the National Capital Region Police office: "I hope the streets will soon be calmer."

Francis Chua, president of the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce, said the Church position "should have a calming effect on the tense political situation."

"Appeals to conscience are good under normal circumstances, not when the person concerned doesn't appear to have one. How does one ask Idi Amin or a Saddam or a Mugabe to examine his conscience," said Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr., referring respectively to a former Ugandan dictator, ex-President of Iraq Saddam Hussein and Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe.

"It's satisfactory, balanced, sober and thought-provoking, meaning vague," said opposition Sen. Panfilo Lacson.

The bishops commended police and military officials for staying away from partisan politics and reiterating their loyalty to the Constitution.

Referring to Ms Arroyo's confession to a "lapse in judgment" for talking to Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano in a wiretapped conversation during last year's balloting, the bishops said "beyond apology is accountability."

Justice with forgiveness

"Indeed, with forgiveness is justice. To restore trust would require a thorough, credible and independent process to examine the authenticity of the so-called Garcillano tapes, verify any possible betrayal of public trust and mete out due punishment on all those found guilty," the statement said.

"Punishment should also be imposed on those duly found guilty of corruption and illegal acts, such as jueteng and wiretapping," it said.

The bishops said moral accountability called for radical reforms in various agencies to make them responsive to requirements of integrity and needs of the poor.

Saying that the Constitution offered solutions to the political turmoil, the bishops said that "on this basis, we reject quick fixes that cater to selfish political agenda and advantage rather than to the common good."

"We deplore the attempts of those groups who seek to exploit our vulnerable national situation in order to create confusion and social chaos in order to seize power by unconstitutional means.

"We reject calls for juntas or revolutionary councils. Our political leaders have to be the first to observe and faithfully implement the constitution. Resolving the crisis has to be within the framework of the Constitution and the laws of the land so as to avoid social chaos, the further weakening of political systems and greater harm in the future," the bishops said.

Divided Church

The prelates' position was criticized by some sectors in the Church itself, reflecting deep divisions in the most powerful institution in the largely Roman Catholic country.

"I am deeply disappointed," said Bro. Edmundo Fernandez, head of the De La Salle Brothers.

"Personally, I would have wanted them to call for resignation," he said, echoing a stand made by La Salle colleges and universities in the country.

On Saturday night, the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines (AMRSP) called on Ms Arroyo to relinquish power voluntarily.

"In the light of the events of the past few days and the President's own decisions ... we ask, for the good of our country and our people, that she voluntarily resign and help bring about a smooth political transition," the group said in a statement.

The Sisters' Association in Mindanao, an organization of 349 sisters from 39 congregations, also issued a statement calling on Ms Arroyo to step down.

It said the President "has committed the grave sin of stealing her legitimacy from the people. She has committed a serious immoral act in governance."

In Cebu, the Redemptorist communities in Visayas and Mindanao said in a statement that any resolution of the political controversy should be based on the "rule of law."

Exercise of prudence

The bishops' statement was penned by Cotobato Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, the CBCP president during the Estrada administration and a member of the drafting committee that also included Nueva Caceres Archbishop Leonardo Legaspi, and Bishops Chito Tagle of Imus and Nereo Odchimar of Tandag.

Quevedo and Legaspi, highly respected by their peers, answered most of the questions during yesterday's press conference.

Legaspi, a known "progressive" and also a former CBCP president, described the statement as an "exercise of prudence."

He said demanding Ms. Arroyo's resignation was "very alive" in the minds of individual bishops but did not actually surface during the actual deliberations.

The INQUIRER learned that Legaspi had prepared one of two drafts which was "shorter and more straight-forward" than the version written by Quevedo. The bishops, however chose Quevedo's "longer and more wordy" version, according to a highly placed source. *With reports from TJ Burgonio, Michael Lim Ubac, Luige A. del Puerto, Christine O. Avendaño and Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. in Manila; and Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Bishops' decision enhances chances ...

From page A1

the key Cabinet members, "it is no longer possible for her to govern and for them to do their work."

As she called for supreme sacrifice, Aquino sounded hollow as some with long memories raised the relevant question. Did she make the "supreme sacrifice" to put Hacienda Luisita under land reform?

Ramos intervention

Aquino's call fractured the original Edsa I alliance as former President Fidel V. Ramos intervened to halt the resignation momentum by declaring his support for the Arroyo administration and spurning demands for her immediate resignation to break the impasse.

Aquino is touted to have influence in the civil society community, while Ramos, who has saved the Aquino administration from six coup attempts, is believed to still have considerable influence in the Armed Forces, a key constituency whose withdrawal could spell the collapse of the Arroyo administration.

Ramos' 11th-hour intervention appeared to have blocked the development of a momentum behind the resignation option and blunted Aquino's influence in creating a snowballing pressure for Ms Arroyo to relinquish power.

Even as the CBCP was still discussing its stand, it seems clear that Aquino's grip on the Edsa I movement had weakened without the late Jaime Cardinal Sin.

Masses marginalized

In the wake of the realignment of the elite involved in two Edsa upheavals, it appears that the masses have become less important in deciding the fate of the Arroyo administration and have become more marginalized in deciding the political outcome of crisis.

The crisis of the Arroyo administration has increased the role of the political, business and military elite, following their shifting alliances shattered by the crisis, as the key power brokers upon which the survival of government depends.

Proof of the marginalization of the masses is that they dare not pour into the streets in response to calls from some bishops, the noisy middle class and some in the Left, to join them in the demand for immediate political change.

The lack of response from the masses, whose numbers in the streets during Edsa I and II were critical in influencing shifts in the elites and their defections from the ruling regime, is reflected in the crowd turnout in protest rallies against the administration.

The result of the marginalization of the masses is that the deciding elements in the survival or collapse of the administration have shifted to the middle class embedded in key institutions, such as the Church, the bureaucracy, military, and the business community.

Thus, we no longer have a people power movement, as in Edsa I and II, but a "people power" mounted by the middle class within institutions, whose call for the Ms Arroyo's resignation has failed to pick up resonance from the masses, who cannot identify themselves with the interests of the middle class in their deadly power struggle provoked by the political scandals plaguing the administration.

Thus, the outcome of this crisis is being determined by the opportunistic middle class not in the streets but within their institutional bases.

Impeachment periled

The continuing stalemate threatens the survival of one of the few remaining options for a constitutional solution. One of these is the impeachment option. The escalation of the resignation demand lends to the closure of the impeachment venue.

The Constitution provides four modes for the removal of a president from office—death, permanent disability, resignation and impeachment. Of these modes, two options are available in this state of the crisis—resignation and impeachment.

Although resignation is theoretically a voluntary act, the political reality is that the President is under duress by pressure from the middle-class battlements to resign, thereby making the voluntary nature of resignation a political fiction.

Not only that. The middle class, which disdains the disorder and mayhem in streets because of fear being hurt in the melee, seeks to fast-track the resignation option as a bloodless route to the transfer of power.

The fast-tracking of resignation is fraught with dangers and does not provide a painless formula for a "smooth transition." First of all, this option is being pushed by the middle class, to the exclusion of another constitutional option, impeachment.

There is no institutional channel to make this option orderly and to make it conform to the principle of the rule of law and elementary fairness. Public clamor for resignation, whether coming from the middle or poor classes, is a thin disguise for disregarding this principle.

The resignation call harnesses public opinion as the tribunal which tries the fitness of a president to stay in office.

In impeachment, there is an institutional framework and process in which guilt or innocence of an impeached official is determined by fair and orderly procedures. In an impeachment, an official is given a venue to defend himself/herself from charges.

The resignation stampede violates the fundamental principle of giving an indicted official a chance to reply. It denies the official such a forum.

Lynch mob

It cannot be denied, and indeed it is a fact, that the mounting calls are made, metaphorically speaking, against the background of a lynch mob mood fueled by perception of wrongdoing of constitutional violation based on flimsy evidence, such as the tapes.

In people power and in middle-class generated demands for summary execution without trial, democracy and a constitutional order based on institutional procedures of rule of law are thrown to the wind. This is where the danger of the collapse of the constitutional order lies—in the hands of the capricious, self-righteous and sanctimonious lynch mob, whether composed of the middle or poor classes.

The lynching of the Arroyo presidency, which is not given a chance to defend itself in the forum of impeachment, will represent the ultimate triumph of mob justice.

The fate of the Arroyo administration is less important than preserving constitutional institutions, such as impeachment. When these institutions are destroyed, there will be no more sanctuary for those whose turn will come next to face the fury of a howling lynch mob, screaming, "Resign! Resign!"

The next administration cannot be safe from this procedure.

Attractive Figure... Shapely Body...
Abdominal Binders
Trim down that stomach. Get the abs you've always wanted!
Slim Waist Belt (Waist Shaper/Saunastrap)
Be the center of every man's attention with that attention-grabbing waist.
Pregnancy Support Belt
Be mobile during pregnancy. Be at ease and experience great comfort.
Have the contour that's right for you.
PERSONA
Your Personal Body Shaper
Available in mercury drug Stores Nationwide
Manufactured for and Exclusively Distributed by medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City Tels. 631-1715; 631-9355; 637-8504
Fax (632) 631-7809 E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

GMA thanks bishops ...

From page A1

own weakness, His power can be made perfect in me to help me become the servant-president for you in the way He wants me to be," she added.

The President vowed to perform her duties, particularly in getting the economy moving.

"I will work with the Church, members of civil society and all others who help build a better quality of life for the people of the Philippines and put an end to the political bickering that is causing such harm to our nation," she said.

"Once more, I pledged to do everything within my power to earn your enduring trust and support," the President said.

Clapping

Remonde, who was in the Palace watching TV with the President and her personal staff, was "happy" about the statement.

He said female staff members couldn't help but clap their hands in elation while the CBCP statement was being read, prompting the President to tell them, "we should be humble."

Remonde said he sensed the President was even more "inspired" to carry on with her work and to regain the people's trust.

Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez said "a major crisis has been overcome" following the statement of the CBCP.

"This would somehow calm the waters, but it won't satisfy the people who have the agenda to grab power," Gonzalez said in a phone interview.

He acknowledged that should the CBCP position favored groups calling for the President's resignation, "this would have given more firepower to the agitators and destabilizers."

Charm offensive

In the morning, Ms Arroyo went on a charm offensive.

She paid a surprise visit to a Catholic church in Ermita then strolled down a crowded Manila Bay promenade, holding babies and having her picture taken with ordinary folks.

Ms Arroyo has tried to project a business-as-usual air amid rapidly growing calls for her resignation over allegations that she rigged last year's closely fought elections. But the crisis worsened Friday when 10 Cabinet members defected and called for her resignation. Former President Corazon Aquino also sided against Ms Arroyo.

Wearing white pants and blouse, the President went to church in the tourist district of Ermita with a daughter, son and granddaughter. She knelt in a front pew and bowed her head in deep prayer as bodyguards scrambled to secure the church compound.

A group of Church leaders later approached and prayed for her, closing their eyes and raising their hands over her head.

Signing autographs

Ms Arroyo, holding her daughter by the hand, later strolled down a nearby bayside promenade dotted with coconut palm trees, shaking hands, signing autographs and having her picture taken with surprised strollers.

She stopped by a group of men fishing at the bay and playfully borrowed a rod and tried to fish herself.

She then walked off, waving and smiling at gathering crowds and patting the heads of children, before entering a restaurant to have breakfast with Manila Mayor Lito Atienza, a strong backer.

After breakfast, Atienza said, "She feels emotionally hurt by the treachery of her most-trusted lieutenants but quitting is not on her mind. She knows the people are with her," he said.

Skeptical

Ms Arroyo won a few hearts during her public stroll, but others remained skeptical—a reflection of the deep division that the crisis has sown.

"We want her to stay on rather than have the vice president take over. She's more intelligent," said Cristina Velasco, who posed with her daughter for a picture with the President whom she saw for the first time.

Velasco referred to Vice President Noli de Castro, a former popular radio broadcaster who was bound to succeed her under the Constitution. Some have expressed doubt over the ability to lead of De Castro, who has been a political novice despite having once served as a senator.

A man at the promenade criticized the President: "She's not a good woman. It's best for the country if she leaves." But he was pulled away by his apparently pro-Arroyo wife before he could give his name.

"He's just joking, he's just joking," the wife shot back at a reporter.

Another promenader, student Michael Abanto, was undecided. "I think she cheated in the elections, but maybe she can still do good. I'm still undecided," he said.

A poll released on Wednesday said only two out of every 10 Filipinos still trust Ms Arroyo and nearly half believe she should no longer be president amid allegations of election fraud and corruption accusations against her family. *With a report from AP*

SUERTRES 3 0 3
(In exact order)
EZ2 11 8

Text us your feedback:
inquirer met name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

SUPERLOTTO 6/49
3 19 28 34 36 48
P37,943,247.30

Demonstrators snub historic Edsa Shrine

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

AT THE height of calls for the resignation of President Macapagal-Arroyo last week, the church that witnessed massive demonstrations in recent history was quiet.

"The situation at the Edsa Shrine has remained quiet and peaceful," Eastern Police District director Oscar Valenzuela said.

He said there had been no recent attempts by any group to stage protests at the shrine that was built at the corner of Edsa and Ortigas Avenue after the Edsa Revolution of 1986 or Edsa I.

Not even a whimper was heard in or around the church, even after former President Corazon Aquino, a key player in Edsa I, added her voice to the call for Ms Arroyo to step down.

Instead, members and supporters of the political opposition have been gathering at the intersection of Ayala Avenue and Paseo de Roxas in Makati City.

The group of Bro. Eddie Villanueva, head of the Jesus Is Lord Movement and a defeated presidential aspirant, held a prayer rally at the People Power Monument some 500 meters away at the corner of Edsa and Katipunan Avenue.

Nobody attempted to start a protest action at the shrine.

"People now see that going to the Edsa Shrine is not the solution," Edsa Shrine pastor Fr. Vic Apacible told the INQUIRER.

Besides, church officials have become strict in allowing rallies at the shrine. Permits have to be secured first from the Archbishop of Manila.

Though officials have said that the tension was over, lawmen were still deployed at the shrine yesterday as police in Metro Manila maintained a heightened alert status.

More than 20 members of the Philippine National Police Special Action Force reinforced the ranks of the Eastern Police District at the shrine yesterday afternoon.

WPD warns schools against 'destabilizers'

Police to report students joining rallies

By Margaux C. Ortiz

STEER students away from destabilization efforts.

Officials of the Western Police District (WPD) called on school administrators and campus security officers in Manila to help ensure that students are not influenced by alleged political destabilizers.

WPD director Chief Supt. Pedro Bulaong met with school officials last week and informed them of reports that "some groups have been infiltrating educational institutions to feed students and educators with wrong political information."

He was referring to "exaggerated" statements against President Macapagal-Arroyo, who is facing calls for her resignation due to allegations that she conspired with an election official to rig last year's presidential polls.

"We believe that you do not want your schools to get involved in the destabilization issue, so we are asking your full cooperation to avoid violence in campuses," Bulaong told key officials of the Philippine National Association of School Security Officers and the Metro Manila Association of School Security Officers.

The WPD chief said that infiltrators "probably resorted to such movements because of the visible absence of great numbers of students joining street protest actions."

Bulaong said the school administrators and security officers assured the WPD of their cooperation, and that they would steer their students away from destabilization activities.

They also reportedly vowed to continue supporting Ms Arroyo, saying they remained confident in the programs of the administration, "especially in her initiatives to further improve the country's education system."

"We do not allow our students to participate in street protests," said Estrella Macaraya of the Philippine Normal University.

She added, "We believe that some individuals are even posing as students and staff members to mislead the public about our stance."

Precy Asuncion, chair of the Mendiola Consortium, said they still believed in the administration of President Arroyo.

"We are expressing our sincere support for her leadership," Asuncion said.

Bulaong also assured the institutions that the police would immediately report students who would join rallies and street demonstrations.

Las Piñas City sees increase in burglaries

By Jocelyn R. Uy

A STRING of unsolved robbery cases in Las Piñas City's villages and subdivisions has prompted the local police to seek the cooperation of homeowners in combating "akyat-bahay" gangs in the city.

Robberies in the city became glaring when classes started, said Criminal Investigation Division chief Supt. Efrain Sindico.

"Robbers need money maybe because they need to pay their children's tuition," Sindico said.

In the first five days of July, six "akyat-bahay" cases have been reported to the police. Some P280,000 in valuables were reported lost to the robbers.

Among the victims were Nemesio Batoon, a Navy captain, of Remarville Subdivision in Pamplona Dos, who lost two watches worth P11,000, assorted jewelry worth P250,000 and a P12,000 digital camera.

Two in one day

On July 3, two separate robbery incidents took place in two villages.

Imelda Borcelis, 40, a businesswoman, was robbed of P70,000 worth of cash and a cell phone in her home at BF Resort Village, Talon Dos.

Nine hours later, robbers wearing bonnets broke into the house of Jeronimo Joson, 55, in Pilar Village. His timely arrival, however, forced the burglars to flee without taking anything.

On July 5, robbers struck at 83 Melanie Marquez St., BF Resort Village, Talon Dos.

The other day, Antonio Alva, 35, of Victor Street, Landbark Compound, Pamplona Tres, reported to the police that robbers stole assorted jewelry worth P5,000 and P6,000 cash from his house.

Lanot family wishes for justice on birthday of former solon

By Edson Tandoc Jr.

THEY will celebrate his birthday by demanding justice for his death.

Supporters and allies of assassinated former congressman Henry Lanot will mark his birthday on July 20 with the launching of a newly formed umbrella organization that would work for the speedy resolution of his murder case.

New group

The new group, dubbed as the April 13 Movement, is composed of political groups allied with Lanot as well as representatives from various sectors in Pasig City, his eldest son Ken told the INQUIRER.

Lanot should be turning 56 had he not been assassinated on April 13 while eating lunch inside a Pasig City restaurant.

Unsolved

But after three months, the assassination remains unsolved.

Earlier, the police in Pasig said that they were closing in on the killer of Lanot, but no suspect has been identified in the ensuing probe.

Monitoring

"We formed the group so we could closely monitor the investigation. We also want to bring attention back to my father's case," Ken, who will be the group's president, also said.

The launch of the group should have been on June 25, but Pasig City Mayor Vicente Eusebio canceled the permit he had earlier issued for the use of the Plaza Rizal.

Park off-limits

Eusebio, a political rival of Lanot, also barred the group from ever using the park for its activities.

"There is no definite place yet (for the launch). But we will try to secure a permit again from City Hall for the use of the park," Ken said.

Lanot ran for mayor in 2004, but lost to Eusebio.

He protested Eusebio's victory, alleging massive vote-buying and early campaigning.

The case was still pending when Lanot was killed.

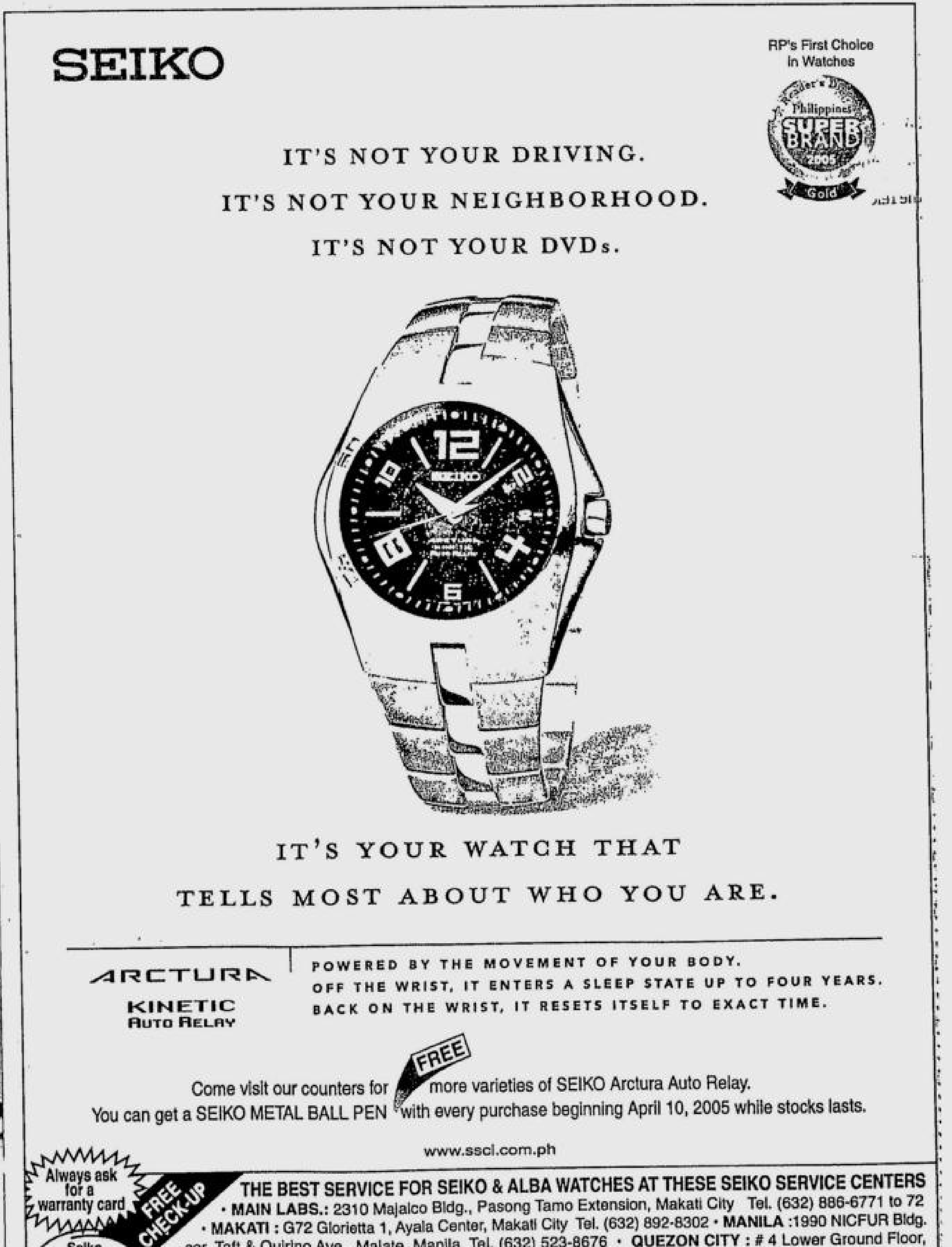
Tillers stop DLR plans

THE PLANNED "takeover" by farmers of the Department of Land Reform (DLR) compound in Quezon City will not push through today.

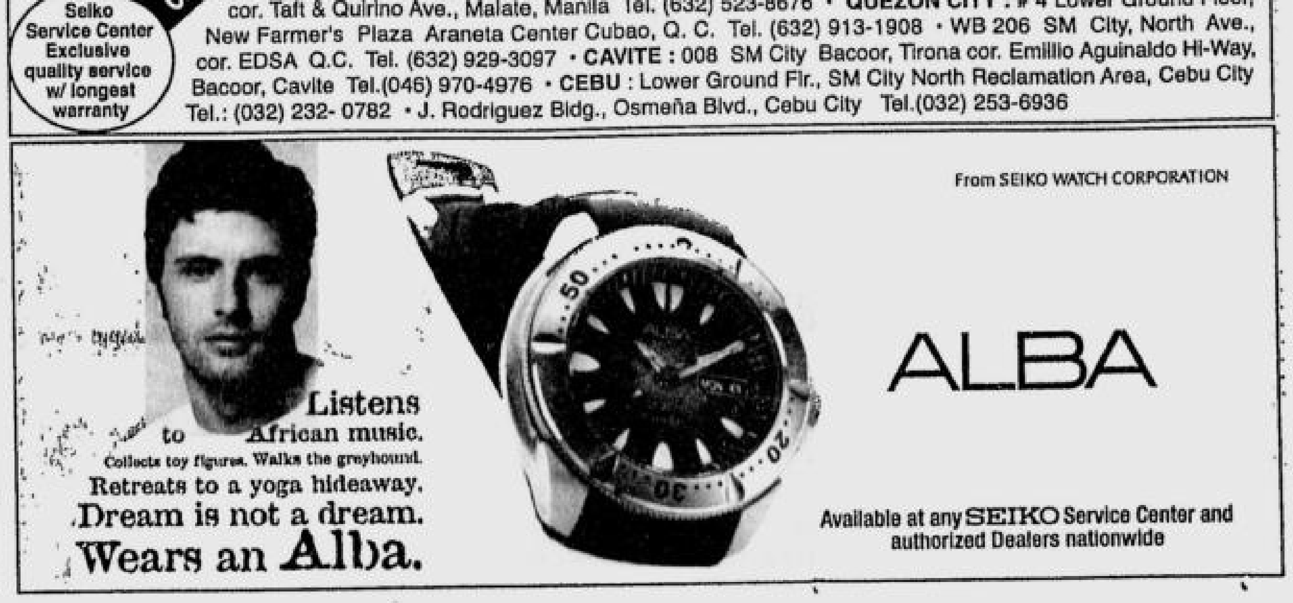
Farmer groups have postponed their planned siege of the DLR offices to Wednesday because of a scheduling problem, said their leader who earlier warned of another occupation of the compound similar to what happened a month ago.

On June 8, 155 farmers stormed the office of resigned Land Reform Secretary Rene Villa and locked themselves in for four hours before they were forced out by police. *DJ Yap*

ENSAYO
GYM EQUIPMENT
"EXPERT IN FITNESS RELATED FACILITIES INCLUDING ACCESSORIES."
• FREE WEIGHTS • MACHINES RACKS & MATS • RUBBER PLATES •
• B-BELLS & D-BELLS • SUPPLEMENTS • BELTS, GLOVES, STRAPS • CARDIOS •
2/F #356 G. ARANETA AVENUE, QUEZON CITY, METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES
TELEPHONE : 713-8700 TELEFAX : 715-3920 CELL : 0918-9111333
EMAIL : inquire@ensayofitness.com WEBSITE : www.ensayofitness.com


SEIKO
RP's First Choice In Watches
Reader's Digest Philippines SUPERBRAND 2005 Gold
IT'S NOT YOUR DRIVING.
IT'S NOT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.
IT'S NOT YOUR DVDs.
IT'S YOUR WATCH THAT TELLS MOST ABOUT WHO YOU ARE.
ARCTURA KINETIC AUTO RELAY
POWERED BY THE MOVEMENT OF YOUR BODY.
OFF THE WRIST, IT ENTERS A SLEEP STATE UP TO FOUR YEARS.
BACK ON THE WRIST, IT RESETS ITSELF TO EXACT TIME.
Come visit our counters for more varieties of SEIKO Arctura Auto Relay.
You can get a FREE SEIKO METAL BALL PEN with every purchase beginning April 10, 2005 while stocks lasts.
www.sscl.com.ph
Always ask for a warranty card
FREE CHECK-UP
Seiko Service Center Exclusive quality service w/ longest warranty
THE BEST SERVICE FOR SEIKO & ALBA WATCHES AT THESE SEIKO SERVICE CENTERS
• MAIN LABS.: 2310 Majalco Bldg., Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City Tel. (632) 886-6771 to 72 • MAKATI : G72 Glorietta 1, Ayala Center, Makati City Tel. (632) 892-8302 • MANILA :1990 NICFUR Bldg. cor. Taft & Quirino Ave., Malate, Manila Tel. (632) 523-8676 • QUEZON CITY : # 4 Lower Ground Floor, New Farmer's Plaza Araneta Center Cubao, Q. C. Tel. (632) 913-1908 • WB 206 SM City, North Ave., cor. EDSA Q.C. Tel. (632) 929-3097 • CAVITE : 008 SM City Bacoor, Tirona cor. Emilio Aguinaldo Hi-Way, Bacoor, Cavite Tel.(046) 970-4976 • CEBU : Lower Ground Flr., SM City North Reclamation Area, Cebu City Tel.: (032) 232-0782 • J. Rodriguez Bldg., Osmeña Blvd., Cebu City Tel.(032) 253-6936

Sentricon®
Termite Colony Elimination System
Dow AgroSciences
BECAUSE SOME THINGS CAN'T BE REPLACED, DESTROY TERMITE COLONIES BEFORE TERMITES DESTROY YOUR HOME.
TOPBEST Pest Services, Inc.
Tel. Nos.: 933-5429 / 681-1921
Cell. No.: 0920-8992123
An Authorized Operator of Sentricon Termite Colony Elimination System


From SEIKO WATCH CORPORATION
Listens to African music.
Collects toy figures. Walks the greyhound.
Retreats to a yoga hideaway.
Dream is not a dream.
Wears an Alba.
ALBA
Available at any SEIKO Service Center and authorized Dealers nationwide

PLDT NDD
Sangkatutak Na Saya No. 11

SULIT NA SULIT UNLIMITED TAWAGAN!

MAY BONUS PA, 10th UNLIMITED CALL MO, FREE!

JULY 12 - AUGUST 11, 2005

BAWING-BAWI KA SA PLDT REGALO!

Kada tawag, dagdag Home Rewards points

Abangan ang special Bonus Pack na ipadadala to selected subscribers

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4060. Series of 2005.
Promo period: July 12 - August 11. See flyers for details

TO CHECK YOUR FREE CALL dial 10-10-10 Toll Free

UNLIMITED
PLDT TO PLDT NDD
P10 Per call

UNLIMITED
PLDT TO SMART
P10/P5 lang
1st minute/ [illegible]
sulit talaga!

- No cut-off time
- [illegible]
- No congestion

PLDT
Iba Pa Rin Ang May PLDT Landline

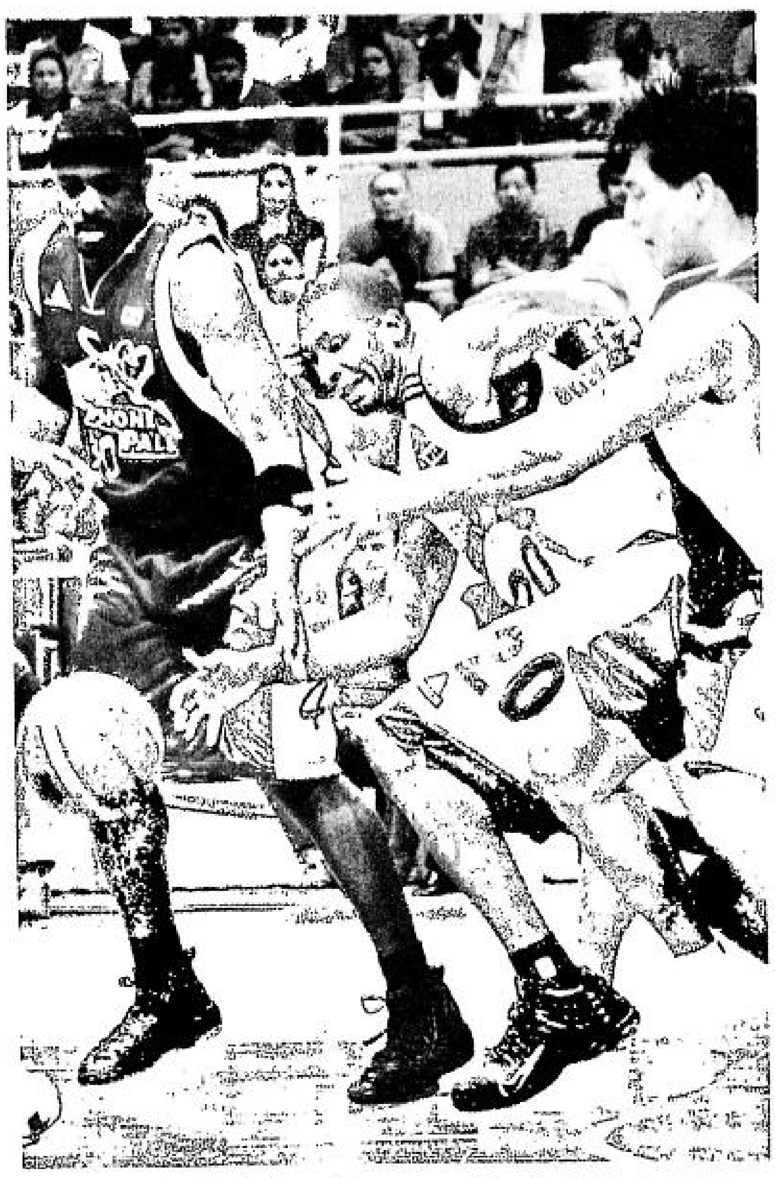
Abangan!
Sangkatutak Na Saya Na May Kasunod Pa!
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1730. Series of 2005. See flyers for details.

- PLDT-PLDT NDD calls below ₱10 will be charged based on regular rate (₱5/min).
- Unlimited tawagan offer is open to post-paid residential and business subscribers including subscribers of PILTEL, CLARKTEL, SUBICTEL, MARATEL and participating PAPTELCOs.
- Unlimited tawagan offer is not valid to the following (1) operator-assisted calls, and (2) participating PAPTELCO subscribers' calls to SMART or TALK 'N TEXT.
- Home Rewards program is open to post-paid residential subscribers only. Every ₱25 charged to the subscriber's bill earns one (1) point.

Get a Chance to WIN!!!
₱100,000 GECUBE™ Video Cards
www.pcbuyersguide.com.ph
PC BUYER'S GUIDE
THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE COMPUTER MAGAZINE IN THE PHILIPPINES

Hair Loss Stops at Svenson
Call Svenson at 892-HAIR (4247)

Gritty Beermen back on top with 17th title



SMB Beer's Ace Curtis (center) loses possession off a double team by Victor Pablo (right) and Jerald Honeycutt in Game 5 yesterday. RYAN LIM

By June Navarro

SAN Miguel Beer showed up with too many weapons that Talk 'N Text found hard to stop and the Beermen pulled through, 91-87, last night to clinch the season-ending Gran Matador PBA Fiesta Conference crown.

Danny Ildefonso and Olsen Racela shone brightest in the end as they led the final assault that allowed the Beermen to wrap up the best-of-seven series, 4 games to 1, at the Cuneta Astrodome.

Ildefonso's jump hook off a pick-and-roll and Racela's steal with 13.4 ticks and succeeding free throws sealed the 17th franchise crown of the Beermen and coach Jong Uichico's sixth title in nine championship appearances.

"The key here was the players really wanting to win a championship," said Uichico, who moved into a tie with Tommy Manotoc in fourth place among the league's winningest coaches.

"It's been a while since we won a title and I'm dedicating this win to coach Ron (Jacobs). Coach, this one's for you," added Uichico of his mentor, who suffered a stroke three years ago.

The last time San Miguel won a championship was in the 2001 All-Filipino Cup. Then came a series of heartbreaking Finals appearances that included three losing championship stints in a row.

With their 17th title in 27 Finals stint, the Beermen cemented their status as the winningest ballclub in the league's 30-year history. San Miguel also has 10 runner-up finishes and 14 third-place trophies.

Ace Custis and Dondon Hontiveros boosted SMB's cause with their torrid outside shooting while Dorian Peña and Nic Belasco did another superb job of containing the Phone Pals' menacing frontline.

Although recuperating from a sprained ankle, Danny Seigle also helped sustain San Miguel's huge run after trailing the Phone Pals, 66-61, at the end of three quarters.

Custis tossed in 22 points and grabbed 14 rebounds while Hontiveros had 15 along with Seigle and Peña, who also plucked 11 boards for another double-double performance.

Ildefonso, who took the Finals MVP award, chipped in 12 points but made seven of them in the waning minutes of the fourth period.

Though dropping their second consecutive championship appearance, Talk 'N Text continued its streak of not finishing lower than third place since coach Joel Banal took over last season.

Asi Taulava, who finally rejoined the Phone Pals through a court ruling upholding his Filipino citizenship during the playoffs, was of little help.

The scores:

SAN MIGUEL 91—Custis 22, Hontiveros 15, Seigle 15, Peña 15, Ildefonso 15, Racela 8, Adriano 4, Villoria 0, Belasco 0.

TALK 'N TEXT 87—Honeycutt 22, Pablo 10, Belano 10, Taulava 9, Alapag 9, Telan 8, Miller 7, Carey 6, Ravena 4, Fran 2, Gelig 0, Camaso 0.

Quarters: 21-25, 40-42, 61-66, 91-87

Elegant and inconspicuous on your dash ...and best of all
It Really Works!
DASHIELD
Multi-layered dashboard cover with UV inhibitors
- 90% Heat Reduction on dashboard
- Available for most car and van models
- Used by Transhow & Motorshow winners
1013 EDSA (near Veterans Vill. entrance), Quezon City
Tel. nos. 372-3640 • 372-2464 • 415-7837
PATENTED

Tired of SUBSTANDARD and INFERIOR truck bodies in the market?
At CENTRO, we make the BEST truck bodies that last.
- OVEN-BAKED PAINT (No fading, di naninilaw)
- 5 - STEP METAL TREATMENT (Walang kalawang)
- 100% MACHINE PRESSED (Hindi balot ng masilya)
- GRADE A METAL SHEETS
- JAPANESE GLASS & RUBBER SEALS
The only ISO 9001:2000 Certified Truck Body Builder in the Philippines.
NO RUST LEAKS
Available for ISUZU (ELF) NKR/ NHR, MITSUBISHI CANTER, KIA K2700 and other brands.
CENTRO MANUFACTURING CORPORATION
Call us 930-0971/ 939-3710
Call or Text (0917) 349-2217 (0922) 812-5798

Tiny Archers rip Eagles; Falcons win

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE SMALLER La Salle Archers didn't look too bad after all.

Asserting their dominance in the backcourt, the defending champion Archers blew past their bitter rivals Ateneo Eagles, 78-60, in their first meeting in the 68th UAAP basketball season yesterday at the packed Araneta Coliseum.

Senior center Jun Cabatu led the Archers with 15 points, but it was JV Casio who came out firing and shone beyond the arc to finish with 14.

The win was doubly sweet for coach Franz Pumaren, who notched his 100th career victory.

"It was a great achievement reaching this milestone," said Pumaren, who scored his key win over new Ateneo coach Norman Black, his former mentor in the PBA.

"There's really a big difference in coaching a college team and the pros," added Pumaren. "We caught them flat-footed.

Earlier, the Adamson Falcons clobbered the National University Bulldogs, 116-103, behind hefty center Ken Bono who drilled in 24 points and grabbed 16 rebounds.

Sophomore Marc Agustin, son of former pro star Ato Agustin, added 21 points and provided the offensive spark for the Falcons in the second half.

"I'm satisfied with the offense, but I'm disappointed with our defense," said coach Mel Alas after his debut with the Falcons.

The Archers, fielding their smallest lineup in years, relied on their offensive firepower from the three-point area to take a 20-13 edge in the first quarter.

They opened the second period with a 16-0 blast, including three triples from Casio, for a 36-13 cushion.

As the Eagles missed open shots, the Archers widened their lead to 33 points, 50-17.

SRO CROWD: Fans, mostly from Ateneo and La Salle (above), pack the Araneta Coliseum yesterday in anticipation of a tight match. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

It was all too clear the Archers didn't miss main man Mac Cardona, who skipped his final eligibility year in favor of the pro league.

The Eagles, led by LA Tenorio and JC Intal, tried to match the Archers' play in the second half, but the gap proved too wide to bridge.

In junior play, Miguel de Asis and Santos Urra III scored 16 points apiece to lead the La Salle Bengalst past the Eaglets, 75-71, while the Baby Falcons overwhelmed the Bullpups, 74-49, behind Robin Dizon's 20-point performance.

The varsity scores:

Third Game

ADAMSON 116—Bono 24, Agustin 21, Cabahug 19, Hatie 14, Hugnatan 11, Yong 6, Capati 5, Poloyapoy 4, Tajonera 3, Canuday 3, Gonzaldo 0, Basilio 0.

NU 103—D. Catamora 24, Malcontento 19, Asoro 12, Fernandez 11, Flor 10, Sanchez 9, Malagueño 9, Salvado 4, Tungkol 3, Estolano 2, Lingao-Lingao 0, Jahnke 0, Dela Cruz 0.

Quarters: 29-26, 59-56, 92-75, 116-103

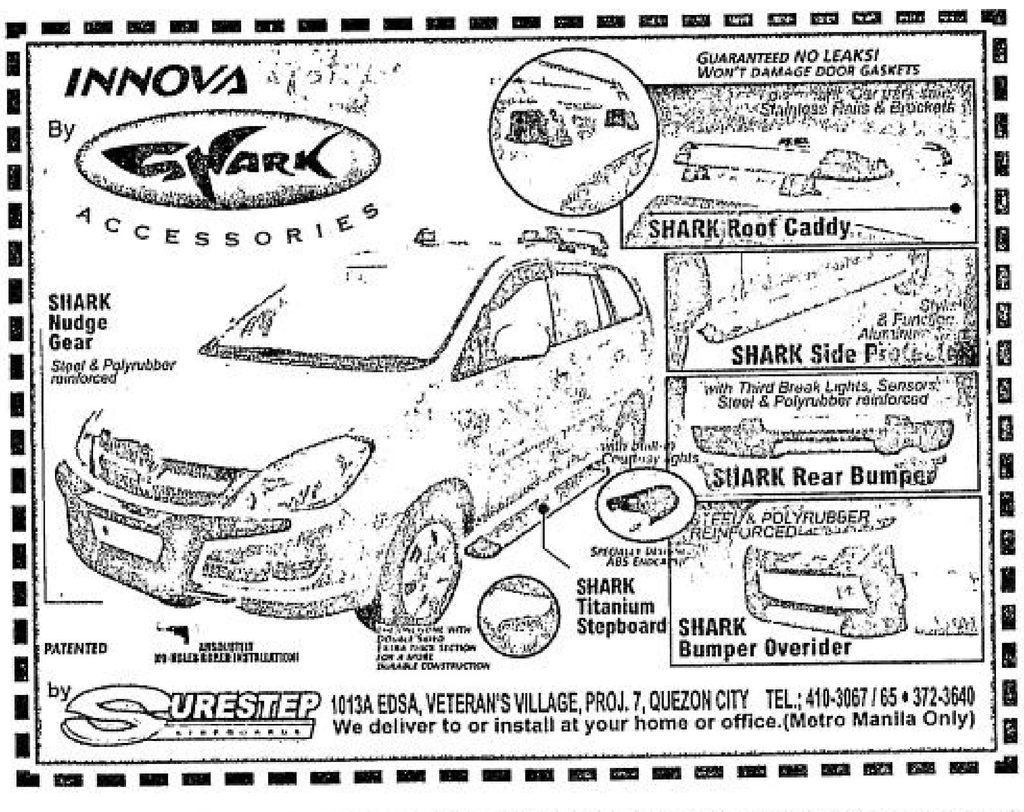
Fourth Game

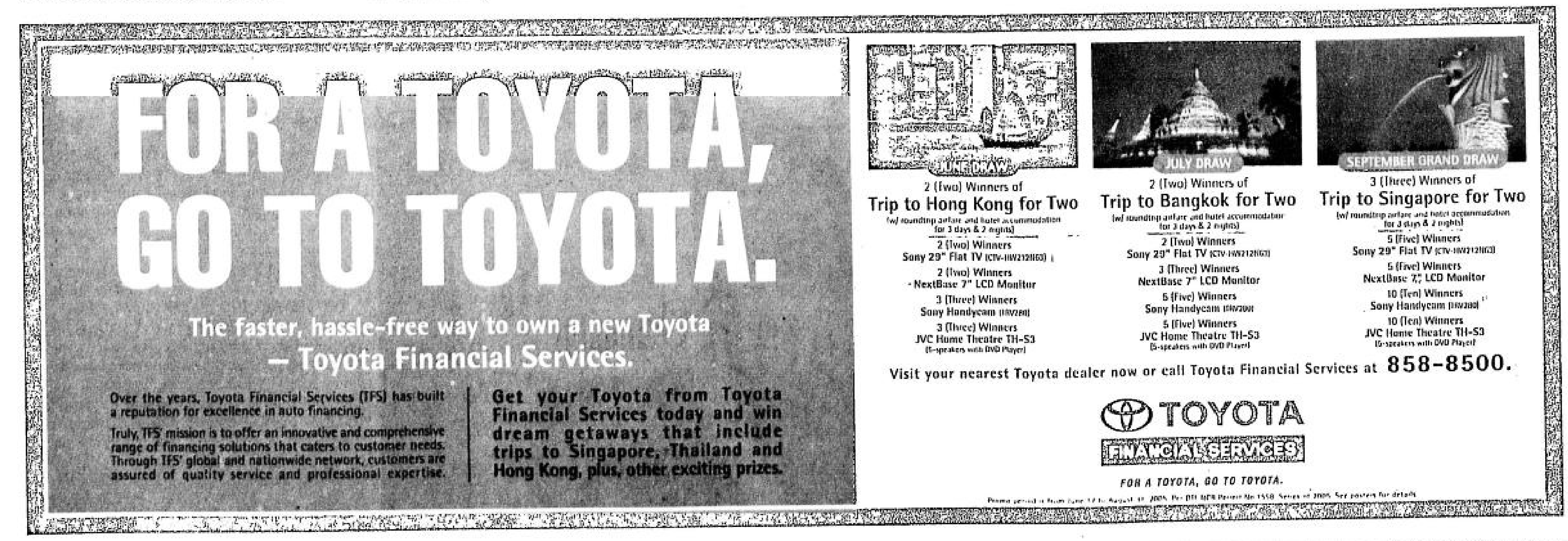
LA SALLE 78—Cabatu 15, Casio 14, Yeo 10, Tang 9, Araña 9, Villanueva 8, Maierhoffer 5, Cua 5, Aquino 3, Rivera 0, Co 0, Benitez 0.

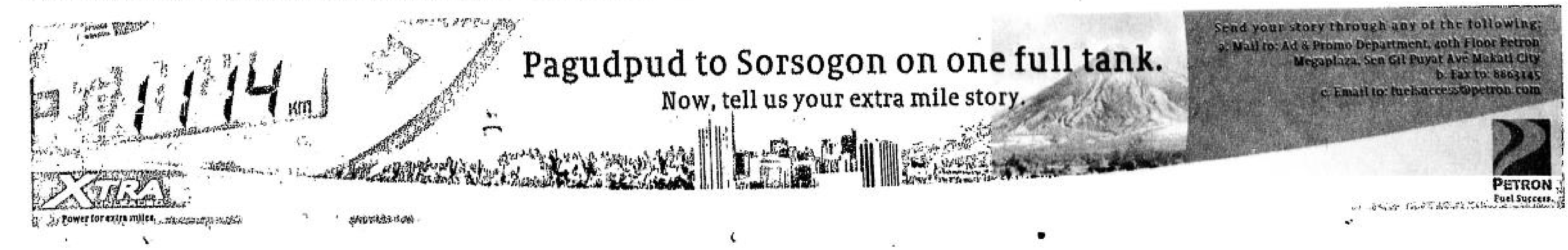
ATENEO 60—Tenorio 14, Membrere 10, Aguilar 9, Intal 8, Escalona 8, Barracoso 6, Arao 2, Al-Hussaini 2, Quimson 1, Reyes 0, Laterre 0, Kramer 0, Del Rosario 0.

Quarters: 20-13, 50-20, 65-42, 78-60

GAMES THURSDAY
(*Blue Eagle Gym*)
2 p.m.—UE vs NU
4 p.m.—UP vs La Salle


INNOVA By SHARK ACCESSORIES
GUARANTEED NO LEAKS! WON'T DAMAGE DOOR GASKETS
Stainless Rails & Brackets
SHARK Roof Caddy
SHARK Nudge Gear
Steel & Polyrubber reinforced
Style & Function Aluminum
SHARK Side Protector
with Third Break Lights, Sensors, Steel & Polyrubber reinforced
SHARK Rear Bumper
with built-in Courtesy lights
STEEL & POLYRUBBER REINFORCED
SHARK Titanium Stepboard
SHARK Bumper Overider
PATENTED
by SURESTEP 1013A EDSA, VETERAN'S VILLAGE, PROJ. 7, QUEZON CITY TEL.: 410-3067 / 65 • 372-3640
We deliver to or install at your home or office.(Metro Manila Only)


FOR A TOYOTA, GO TO TOYOTA.
The faster, hassle-free way to own a new Toyota — Toyota Financial Services.
Over the years, Toyota Financial Services (TFS) has built a reputation for excellence in auto financing.
Truly, TFS' mission is to offer an innovative and comprehensive range of financing solutions that caters to customer needs. Through TFS' global and nationwide network, customers are assured of quality service and professional expertise.
Get your Toyota from Toyota Financial Services today and win dream getaways that include trips to Singapore, Thailand and Hong Kong, plus, other exciting prizes.
JUNE DRAW
2 (Two) Winners of Trip to Hong Kong for Two (w/ roundtrip airfare and hotel accommodation for 3 days & 2 nights)
2 (Two) Winners Sony 29" Flat TV
2 (Two) Winners NextBase 7" LCD Monitor
3 (Three) Winners Sony Handycam
3 (Three) Winners JVC Home Theatre TH-S3 (5-speakers with DVD Player)
JULY DRAW
2 (Two) Winners of Trip to Bangkok for Two (w/ roundtrip airfare and hotel accommodation for 3 days & 2 nights)
2 (Two) Winners Sony 29" Flat TV
3 (Three) Winners NextBase 7" LCD Monitor
5 (Five) Winners Sony Handycam
5 (Five) Winners JVC Home Theatre TH-S3 (5-speakers with DVD Player)
SEPTEMBER GRAND DRAW
3 (Three) Winners of Trip to Singapore for Two (w/ roundtrip airfare and hotel accommodation for 3 days & 2 nights)
5 (Five) Winners Sony 29" Flat TV
5 (Five) Winners NextBase 7" LCD Monitor
10 (Ten) Winners Sony Handycam
10 (Ten) Winners JVC Home Theatre TH-S3 (5-speakers with DVD Player)
Visit your nearest Toyota dealer now or call Toyota Financial Services at 858-8500.
TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES
FOR A TOYOTA, GO TO TOYOTA.


1114 km
Pagudpud to Sorsogon on one full tank.
Now, tell us your extra mile story.
Send your story through any of the following:
a. Mail to: Ad & Promo Department, 40th Floor Petron Megaplaza, Sen Gil Puyat Ave Makati City
b. Fax to: 8863145
c. Email to: fuelsuccess@petron.com
XTRA Power for extra miles.
PETRON Fuel Success.

POC tosses back blame to cage body

THEY DID NOT TELL US: Cojuangco (left) with BAP president Joey Lina

By Musong Castillo

NOT our fault.

This was the terse comment of the Philippine Olympic Committee after a national team sent by the Basketball Association of the Philippines to Malaysia had to go through an ordeal after being barred from playing in the Southeast Asian Basketball Association (Seaba) championship.

POC president Jose "Peping" Cojuangco, in a telephone conversation with the INQUIRER, said the BAP should have taken care of its team, having sent the players there "without even informing the POC."

A 12-man team dispatched by the BAP—which the POC expelled from the Olympic body two weeks ago—had to "beg" for funds while in Kuala Lumpur, making it back to the Philippines only through the help of friends.

"They (BAP) did not even inform us that they were going," Cojuangco said. "And besides, they knew that they had no funds to begin with, it was part of the privileges taken away after the BAP was suspended.

"The people who sent them there (Seaba) should have taken care of them. It was not the POC's fault."

The BAP was taken off the POC roster June 30, three days before the cage body opted to send the team to Malaysia to defend the Seaba championship.

Funds from the Philippine Sports Commission were cut on July 1, and the supplemental financial help from the sport's godfather, San Miguel Corp., was withheld by the POC after the BAP was suspended on May 25.

Players of the ill-fated team cried while on the way home and they were described by coach Boysie Zamar as innocent casualties of a crossfire that has hounded Philippine caging since early this year.

"They should have spared the players," Zamar had told the INQUIRER on Thursday.

Officially, the Philippines was suspended from taking part in any international tournament sanctioned and run by the International Basketball Federation (Fiba).

Not being able to play in the Seaba meant that the Philippines will not be seeing action in the Fiba-Asia Men's championship scheduled in Doha, Qatar, in September.

Larong is the man as Mantawi foils CdO

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—The Mantawi Sparkling Nights banked on the big second half explosion of Ardy Larong and Ronald Capati to score a come-from-behind 94-85 victory over the CdO Stars in the 2005 Panasonic-NBC national basketball championship Saturday at the Xavier University gym here.

After missing the potential tying free throws in their 87-89 loss to Cavite a few days ago, Larong came back with 20 second-half points to help Mantawi erase a 15-point deficit and inch ahead for the first time, 65-63, late in the third quarter.

"Ardy (Larong) had sleepless nights after he missed those free throws against Cavite," said Mantawi coach Jun Noel. "He promised to bounce back and he did."

Larong finished with a season-best 32 points, seven rebounds, four assists and three steals.

The Hapee/Dewfoam-backed Mantawi improved its record to a Southern Conference-leading 4-1 in the tournament supported by Panasonic, Sulpicio Lines, Cebu Pacific, Spring Cooking Oil, Accel, Molten, Nature's Spring, Far Eastern Insurance, Skygo Motorcycles, Sirlitz Solutions Provider, Hapee Toothpaste, Dewfoam Corp., KSK Food Products (Boy Bawang), Ping Ping Lechon, Bayview Park Hotel and Holiday Plaza-Cebu.

Capati took over from Larong in the fourth quarter to finish off his former team, unloading 12 points, including eight in one stretch, to give Mantawi a 85-77 lead with 2:35 remaining.

Former Misamis Oriental Gov. Antonio Calingin's Stars got off to a blistering start behind new recruits Balong Ramos and Ronan Isidro to pull away, 36-21.

Mantawi seeks its fifth win against Ozamiz Cotta (6-2) at 6 p.m. today at the Gov. Angel Medina Sr. gym in Ozamiz City.

The scores:

MANTAWI 94—Larong 32, Capati 22, Tundag 13, Gloria 10, Morena 6, Limbo 4, Sereno 3, Carretas 2, Huelar 2, Antiporda 0, Bajenting 0, Ignacio 0, France 0.

CdO 85—Ramos 26, Isidro 22, Dela Victoria 12, Daep 9, Malonzo 6, Tadena 4, Culdora 4, Romaguera 2, Django 0, Pena 0, Torres 0.

Quarters: 19-28, 43-50, 67-65, 94-85.

Two letters on state of RP sports

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

THE HUMBLING defeat suffered by Marlon Manalo at the hands of 16-year-old Wu Chia-ching of Taiwan has shocked Filipino fans. Worse, it has drawn sharp comment from foreign analysts working the World Pool Championship in Kaohsiung. But as the final of the tournament was still to be played at press time, we will print our observation on the failed RP campaign in Kaohsiung in our next column.

In the meantime, let's give way to two urgent commentaries on the state of RP sports.

First, from the office of Rep. Francis L. Nepomuceno, First District, Pampanga:

* * *

Dear Sir:

The expulsion of the Basketball Association of the Philippines from the Philippine Olympic Committee is the first step toward rebuilding the country's basketball program.

However, the BAP forced its way into sending a basketball squad to the Seaba championship in Kuala Lumpur.

The BAP is a classic example of a most rebellious sports organization in the country.

For many years now, because of BAP mismanagement, the RP squad has become a laughing stock in many international tournaments. Not satisfied with its expulsion from the POC, the BAP still wants to savor glory in the Seaba.

The BAP should think a thousand times. Its formula has failed many times in the past. Who in his right mind would delight in failure after failure?

Rather than be a spoiler, the BAP should cooperate with the POC for the sake of national sports, especially basketball.

From North to South, our people's favorite game is basketball. It's ironic that it has become a favorite whipping boy in international competitions as far as RP representation is concerned, no thanks to the BAP.

We have, in the process, a concrete basketball plan with the goal of participation in the 2008 Olympics. It is a very expensive activity and entails lots of sacrifices from sponsors, coaches and players.

Our people are praying and closely watching the development of our national basketball team. For the sake of our country, please give it a chance.

Let there be no spoilers, including the BAP. Let us join hands in making our dream come true, to be once again pillars in basketball.

(Signed)
Francis L. Nepomuceno
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

* * *

This is the second commentary, from Julian Malonso, former president of the Philippine Olympic Committee:

Once again, the IOC representative has shown partiality, he being a party to the suspension by the POC of the BAP, the recognized body by the Fiba.

The duty of the IOC representative to the Philippines (not the representative of the Philippines to the IOC) is to resist government, religious and economic intervention in sports, which Baron Coubertin advocated when the modern Olympiad was revived. He knew all along what would happen if there would be undue intervention in sports as has been happening in the Philippines now.

The IOC representative was even party to the suspension of the BAP by the POC.

For the record, the IOC representative had been partisan in the suspension of former POC president Cristy Ramos-Jalasco and he also interfered in the contest for the POC presidency between Celso Dayrit and Go Teng Kok.

Once again in the election of the BAP, the IOC representative had opposed the representative of the Fiba to monitor the election while telling the Fiba that there was a pending case in the Court of Appeals, which was clear government intervention.

When Mr. Jorge Vargas was the IOC representative to the Philippines, he did not interfere in the affairs of the NOC, now the POC.

The NOC president and his members were men of integrity who believed in the spirit of the Olympic movement to educate the youth spiritually, morally and physically.

I think that IOC representative Frank Elizalde, POC president Jose Cojuangco and POC chair Robert Aventejado do not know the IOC rules.

The position of POC chair is not in the NOC model. It was only created as a pipeline to Malacañang when Joseph Estrada was president.

The POC constitution is a facsimile of the NOC constitution. Sometimes the POC amends its constitution, rules and by-laws.

But amendments in the POC constitution should first be approved by the IOC before these could be implemented.

(Signed)
Lt. Col. Julian M. Malonso, P.A. (Ret.)
92 New York, Cubao, Quezon City

Champion
CIGARETTES
Champion
Champion
MILD MENTHOL
FILTER KINGS
CIGARETTES
BUSINESS
Champion dumiskarte!

Government Warning:
Cigarette Smoking is Dangerous to Your Health.

Manalo settles for $20,000

KAOHSIUNG, Taiwan—It was around 45 minutes past eleven in the evening when the Cinderella story abruptly ended for Filipino Marlon Manalo as he bowed to Wu Chia-ching of Chinese Taipei, 5-11, in the semifinals of the 2005 World Pool Championship at the Kaohsiung Business Exhibition Center.

Following a dramatic, come-from-behind 11-9 victory over Finland's Mika Immonen in the quarterfinals, Manalo's luck simply ran out while his young opponent not only displayed superior shotmaking but enjoyed all the breaks as well late Saturday evening.

At 16, Wu became the youngest finalist in the annual event.

He was set to meet Kuo Po-cheng in an all-Taiwanese finals. The 27-year-old Kuo dispatched Rodney Morris of the United States, 11-8, in the other semifinal battle that ended past 1 a.m. yesterday.

Wu and Kuo were to slug it out for the top prize of $75,000 in the race-to-17 finals starting at 8 p.m. last night.

After tying Wu at 2-all, Manalo's downfall began in the fifth rack following an error on a safety shot. Wu won the rack to kick off a six-rack run and an 8-2 advantage.

The 29-year-old Manalo actually had two chances to break Wu's streak, but the snooker specialist from Mandaluyong City couldn't seize the opportunity.

The Filipino momentarily stopped the bleeding as he took the initiative in the 11th and cleaned up the rack to make it 3-8.

Manalo turned the table over to Wu again after another miscue on the two-ball during an exchange of safety shots.

The Taiwanese teenager then produced the shot of the game when he missed the seven-ball on a corner pocket. Even as he rued the miss, the No. 7 ball slowly found its way to the opposite corner hole and dropped out of sight.

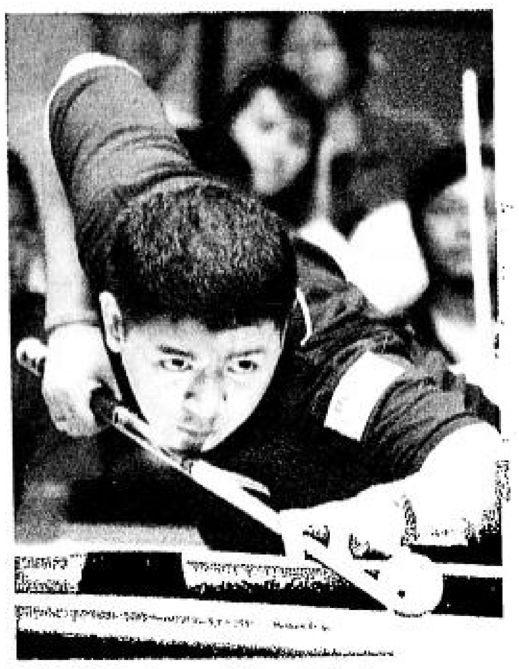
Wu eventually claimed the rack and the next to sit on the hill, 10-3.

Manalo still gave it a fight as he took the next two racks following Wu's failed attempt to close it out in the 14th.

But he only delayed the inevitable. When Manalo made an ill-advised safety on No. 1 in the 16th rack, Wu wasted little time wrapping up the match to the delight of the predominantly hometown crowd.

"*Malas. Walang tsamba* (Tough luck)," exclaimed Manalo after the loss. "I'm not upset, but of course I'm disappointed."

Manalo earned a career-high $20,000 for making it to the semifinals, which was a fitting reward for the top Filipino finisher from an original eight-man squad. He also improved on his quarterfinal finish last year.



MANALO: Career-high cash haul

MVP CUP
ASIA vs EUROPE
SMAR
PLD

MVP CUP

Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company (PLDT) chair Manny V. Pangilinan (second from left) signs the agreement for the MVP Cup Badminton Championships—the elite duel between the world's finest shuttlers from Asia and Europe slated July 12-14 at the PhilSports Arena—with (from left) Boy Martirez, Smart personal communication and mobile services division head; former First Lady Ming Ramos, Philippine Badminton Association president; Robbie Henchman of IMG, and Wilson Teng of Solar Sports.

Wack Wack rips Elena as Southwoods gains

STANDINGS (win-draw-loss-points)

JW Blue—Forest 3-1-0-8, Orchard 2-2-1-7, Canlubang 1-1-2-4, Eastridge 1-1-2-3, Mimosa 0-3-2-3;

JW Gold—Southwoods 3-2-0-9, Northwoods 2-2-0-7, Alabang 2-1-2-7, Sherwood Hills 1-1-3-3, Highlands 0-1-4-1,

JW Green—Wack Wack 4-0-1-8, Manila Golf 2-2-1-6, Valley 1-2-2-4, Sta. Elena 1-1-3-3, Riviera 1-1-3-3

WACK WACK moved closer to a sure spot in the next round when it repeated over Sta. Elena, 3-1, in the Green group yesterday, even as Manila Southwoods inched ahead in the tight Gold group race at the resumption of the 2005 Johnnie Walker Federation Golf League matches over the weekend.

The Wack Wack golfers overpowered their rivals in the first three matches through Tetu Santos-Sammy Sy (foursomes), John Gobing-Benson Lim (high-low) and Ernesto Lim-Mike Ozaeta (aggregate) to ensure the win.

The tandem of King Stehmeier-Paul Chuatico averted a sweep when they salvaged the scramble point for Sta. Elena.

With its fourth victory in five outings, Wack Wack moved up to 8 points, two clear of Manila Golf, which turned back Valley via a 2.5-1.5 decision. The other three teams in the Green group (Valley, Sta. Elena and Riviera) now need to win their remaining games to stay in the hunt.

Southwoods produced wins from Jeric Hechanova-Benjie Sarmiento and Mike Bibat-Romy Vergara and a draw from Ken Onda-Butch Brodette to assume leadership in the Gold division.

Alabang survived a tough Highlands squad, 2.5-1.5, to remain in a three-way fight in their division.

In the Blue group, Orchard and Mimosa battled to a 2-2 draw.

A LIFETIME GIFT...HAIR TRANSPLANTATION!

Remember how your hair used to look? Now imagine your life again with a head full of hair. It grows, it's permanent and only maintenance is a monthly haircut. Dr. Pineda uses the latest technology with follicular unit transplant to achieve a natural looking hairline. *"As natural as it used to be"! Andrew G. Pineda, M.D.* is a full time Beverly Hills trained hair transplant specialist who can help you achieve your dream. **CALL NOW!**

BEFORE

AFTER

The Pineda Hair Clinics
Suite 612 Medical Towers Makati, Rufino Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City
MAKATI 8130691 www.pinedahair.com DAVAO 082 2212682

Dolphins, Cards try to catch Knights

COACH Junel Baculi expects more maturity from Gabby Espinas when the Philippine Christian U Dolphins shoot for their fourth straight win against the Jose Rizal U Bombers in the NCAA basketball tournament at 4 p.m. today at the Cuneta Astrodome.

"Gabby is the team leader, so wherever he goes, the team follows," said Baculi, noting the usually rock-solid Espinas' tendency to lose focus in recent games.

Just like the Dolphins, the surprising Mapua Cardinals will attempt to join solo leader Letran Knights at 4-0 when they battle the dangerous University of Perpetual Help Altas at 1 p.m.

After failing to enter the Final Four last season, rookie guard Kelvin dela Peña has keyed the Cardinals' turnaround.

The defending champion Dolphins also found a surprise package in Beau Belga, the junior big man, who topscored in two of their three outings.

Last Wednesday, Belga drilled 12 points to lead the Dolphins past the Altas, 54-40.

But Espinas, the 2004 Most Valuable Player and Rookie of the Year, groped for form and only scored six points in 30 minutes of action.

Luckily for the Dolphins, veteran Robert Sanz and Jason Castro delivered consistent performances.

"I told them to just focus on the game and believe in the system," said Baculi. "Hopefully in the succeeding games, there will be improvement."

Dela Peña, who has been carrying the offensive load for the Cardinals, finally got support from seniors Hermes Sumalinog, Tristan Veranga and Raymund Tiongco in their 62-53 triumph over the San Beda Lions last Wednesday at the Cuneta Astrodome.

Meanwhile, veterans Khiel Misa, Fritz Bauzon and Vladymir Joe have yet to get their acts together for Perpetual Help, last year's runner-up.

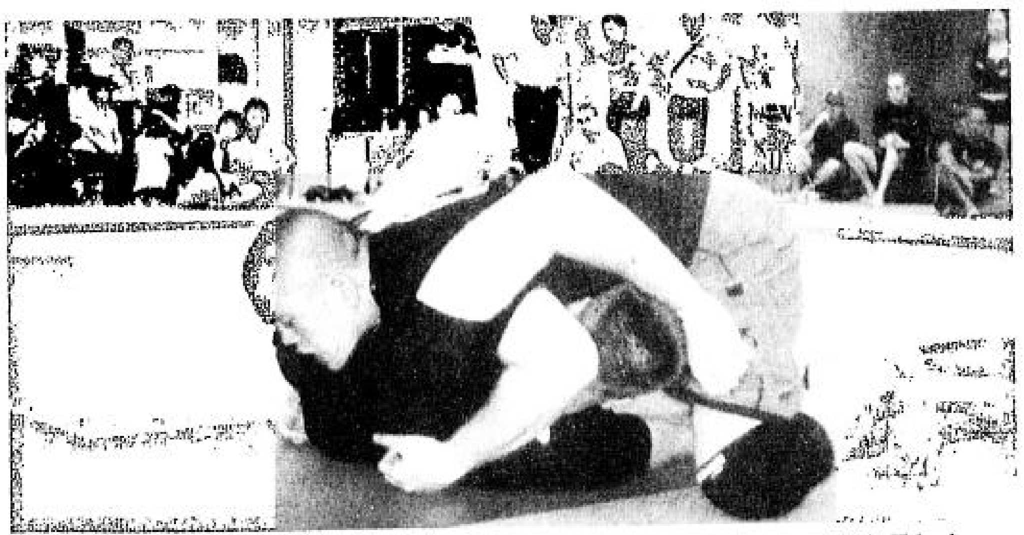
Raymond Jorge, the only senior in the Jose Rizal lineup, has also been struggling trying to lead his rookie-laden team.

In the lone junior match, the Baby Dolphins and the Light Bombers collide at 2:30 p.m.

Jasmine W. Payo

STANDINGS	W	L
Letran	4	0
Mapua	3	0
PCU	3	0
Benilde	3	1
SSC	1	3
Perpetual	0	3
JRU	0	3
San Beda	0	4

GAMES TODAY
(Cuneta Astrodome)
1 p.m.—Perpetual vs Mapua (Srs)
2:30 p.m.—JRU vs PCU (Jrs)
4 p.m.—JRU vs PCU (Srs)



FRITZ Rodriguez makes his move in the second Asia-Pacific Brazilian Jujitsu tilt in Taipei.

RP's Rodriguez puts away gold in As-Pac jujitsu tilt

IRON-WILLED mixed martial arts ace Fritz Rodriguez banked on superior technique to land the gold medal in the No-Gi class of the second Asia-Pacific Brazilian Jujitsu Championship in Taiwan recently.

Rodriguez, a purple belter, also bagged the silver medal in the Gi division. The Filipino and his Japanese foe were dead-even in scores after the tightly fought match.

The championships drew 75 martial arts players from Taiwan, Thailand, Hong Kong, Guam, Indonesia, South Korea and Japan.

Stephen Kamphuis, the Australian skipper of the Philippines' combined team, said the Gi final could have gone in Rodriguez's favor. "At the end of the match, the score was even and the match was decided by the referee," said Kamphuis.

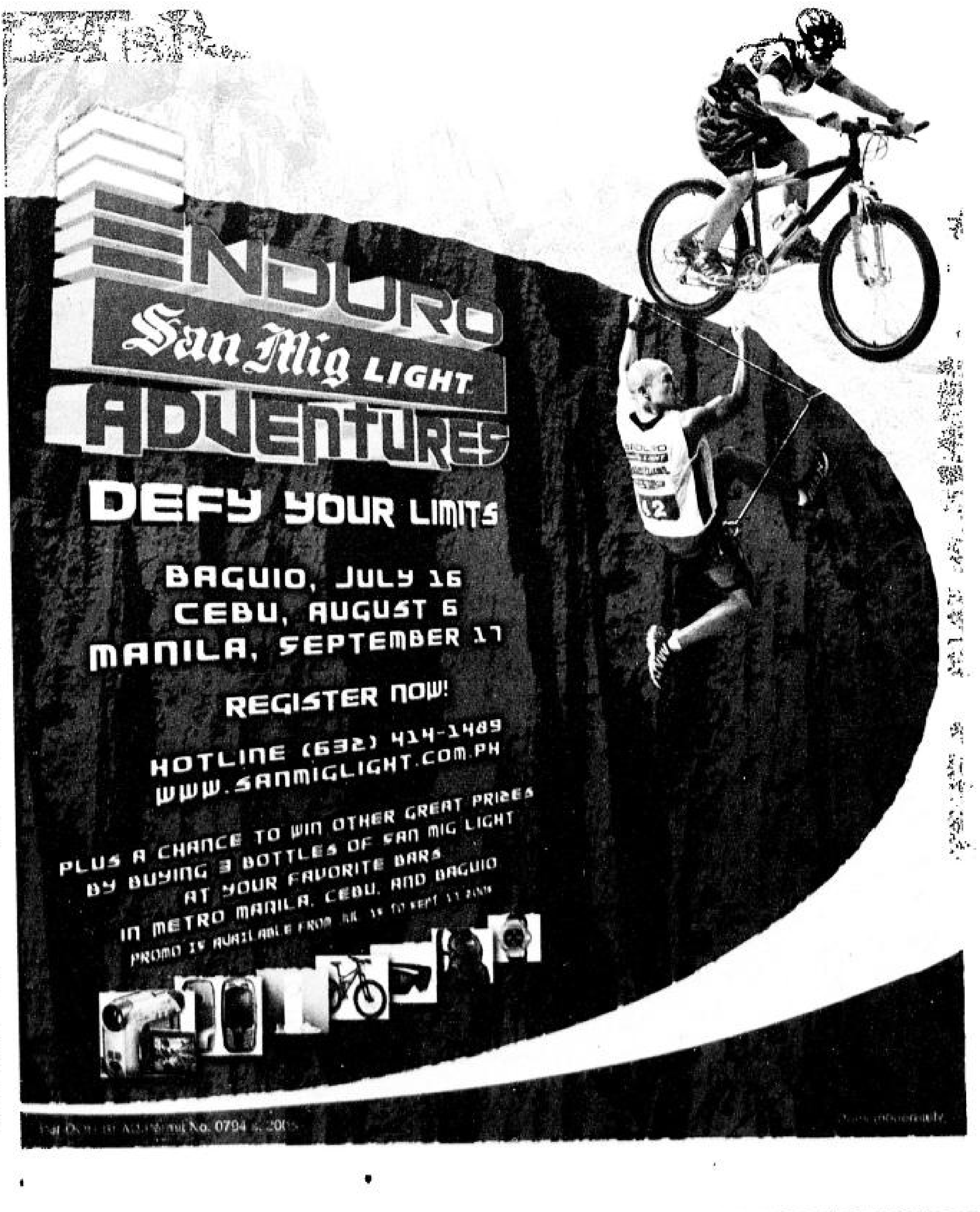
Fighting for the Gracie Barra banner, Rodriguez said his strong performance in Taiwan was a result of his tournament experience in Brazil and his fine showing in the local Universal Reality Combat Championships.

"I trained hard for this tournament," he said.

Rodriguez seized the gold in the No-Gi event after executing one of the tournament's finest moves, a Figure 4 arm bar.

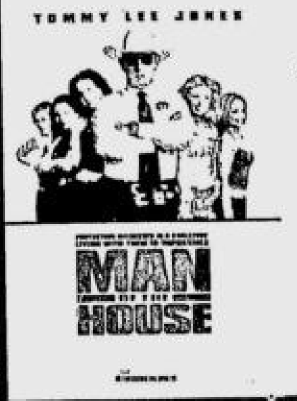
The Filipinos' stint was backed by Deftac, headed by URCC honcho Alvin Aguilar, and Machado. Rodriguez's Deftac teammates included Joey Lepiten and Johnard Salao. Machado fielded standouts TJ Villaluna and Lionel Zamora.

MEMBERS of the RP team, including Fritz Rodriguez (center), show the flag after the awards rites.



Experience SM CINEMA
movietime
movie schedules events promos

Here are the results for the last week's poll!
"What movies are you into?"
TOP FIVE MOVIES
- Monster-in-law ★★★★★
- War of the worlds ★★★★
- Herbie Fully Loaded ★★★★
- Fantastic Four ★★★
- Happily Ever After ★★★



Witness this hilarious comedy about a Texan ranger teamed up with cheerleaders!
Watch it EXCLUSIVELY at SM Southmall today!
WAVE 89.1

FOR GUARANTEED SEATS

the podium 633-8976
1 FANTASTIC FOUR 11:50FS/12:20MF/02:40/05:00/07:20 09:05LFS/09:40LMF/11:25END
2 FANTASTIC FOUR 01:00FS/01:30MF/03:45/06:00/08:15 10:00LFS/10:30LMF/12:15END

megamall 633-1901
WAR OF THE WORLDS 12:50FS/01:30MF/04:00/06:30 08:30LFS/09:00LMF/11:00END

cebu (032) 231-3876
1 FANTASTIC FOUR 12:10FS/12:30MF/02:40/04:50/07:00 09:55LFS/09:10LFS/11:05END
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS 11:40FS/11:50MF/02:15/04:40/07:05 09:05LFS/09:30LMF/11:30END
3 FANTASTIC FOUR 10:40FS/10:50MF/01:00/03:15/05:20/07:30 09:25LFS/10:40LMF/11:35END

FEEL EXCLUSIVE Now SHOWING EXCLUSIVELY at SM CINEMA

Ice Princess

A Special Back-to-School Presentation
An Inspiring story about following your own dreams
Ice Princess
Big things happen to those who dream big.
Watch it EXCLUSIVELY at SM Manila today!
Wave 89.1
Official Radio Partner

METRO MANILA

SM MEGAMALL
WAR OF THE WORLDS
2 MR. & MRS. SMITH
FANTASTIC FOUR
4 BATMAN BEGINS
5 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CREEP
8 MONSTER-IN-LAW
9 WAR OF THE WORLDS
10 FANTASTIC FOUR
11 NASAAN KA MAN
12 HAPPILY EVER AFTER

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
HOTEL RWANDA
2 FANTASTIC FOUR
3 SHUTTER
WAR OF THE WORLDS
5 NASAAN KA MAN
6 MR. & MRS. SMITH
FANTASTIC FOUR
8 BATMAN BEGINS
MONSTER-IN-LAW
10 HAPPILY EVER AFTER
11 WAR OF THE WORLDS
12 CREEP

SM NORTH EDSA
FANTASTIC FOUR
WAR OF THE WORLDS
MONSTER-IN-LAW
4 BATMAN BEGINS
5 WAR OF THE WORLDS
6 FANTASTIC FOUR
7 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
8 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

SM CITY MANILA
1 WAR OF THE WORLDS
2 MR. & MRS. SMITH
3 ICE PRINCESS
FANTASTIC FOUR
5 MONSTER-IN-LAW
6 FANTASTIC FOUR
WAR OF THE WORLDS
8 BATMAN BEGINS
9 NASAAN KA MAN
10 CREEP
11 SHUTTER
12 HAPPILY EVER AFTER

SM CITY STA MESA
1 WAR OF THE WORLDS
2 BATMAN BEGINS
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
4 CREEP
5 FANTASTIC FOUR
6 PREMONITION
7 NASAAN KA MAN
8 HOTEL RWANDA
9 MONSTER-IN-LAW
10 MR. & MRS. SMITH

SM CITY SOUTHMALL
FANTASTIC FOUR
MONSTER-IN-LAW
3 WAR OF THE WORLDS
4 FANTASTIC FOUR
5 NASAAN KA MAN
6 MR. & MRS. SMITH
HAPPILY EVER AFTER
8 BATMAN BEGINS
9 CREEP
10 MAN OF THE HOUSE

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
RESERVED

SM SUPERCENTER SUCAT
1 CREEP
2 FANTASTIC FOUR
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
4 WAR OF THE WORLDS

SM CITY BICUTAN
FANTASTIC FOUR
WAR OF THE WORLDS
PREMONITION
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

LUZON

SM CITY PAMPANGA
FANTASTIC FOUR
2 FANTASTIC FOUR
NASAAN KA MAN
4 HAPPILY EVER AFTER
5 HOTEL RWANDA
6 WAR OF THE WORLDS

SM CITY BACOOR
1 MONSTER-IN-LAW
2 HAPPILY EVER AFTER
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
BATMAN BEGINS
5 FANTASTIC FOUR
6 WAR OF THE WORLDS
NASAAN KA MAN
8 MR. & MRS. SMITH

SM CITY DASMARINAS
WAR OF THE WORLDS
HOTEL RWANDA
MONSTER-IN-LAW
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

SM CITY LUCENA
1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 UNLEASHED
3 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR
WAR OF THE WORLDS

SM CITY BAGUIO
FANTASTIC FOUR
IN GOOD COMPANY
3 WAR OF THE WORLDS
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

SM CITY MARILAO
FANTASTIC FOUR
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
PREMONITION
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

SM CITY BATANGAS
1 WAR OF THE WORLDS
2 SHUTTER
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
SIN CITY

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

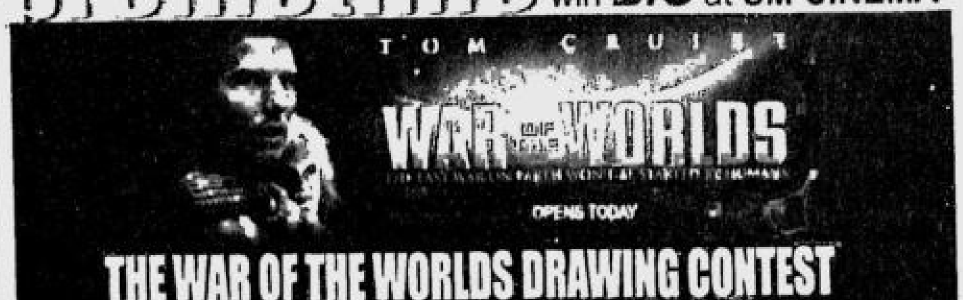
SM CITY CEBU
1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
BATMAN BEGINS
5 BIRTH
6 LOVE ME IF YOU DARE
7 MR. & MRS. SMITH
FANTASTIC FOUR

SM CITY ILOILO
FANTASTIC FOUR
2 RESERVED
WAR OF THE WORLDS
4 PREMONITION
5 A LOT LIKE LOVE
FANTASTIC FOUR
7 RESERVED
8 BATMAN BEGINS

SM CITY DAVAO
FANTASTIC FOUR
2 THE JACKET
3 HAPPILY EVER AFTER
COACH CARTER
5 WAR OF THE WORLDS
6 FANTASTIC FOUR

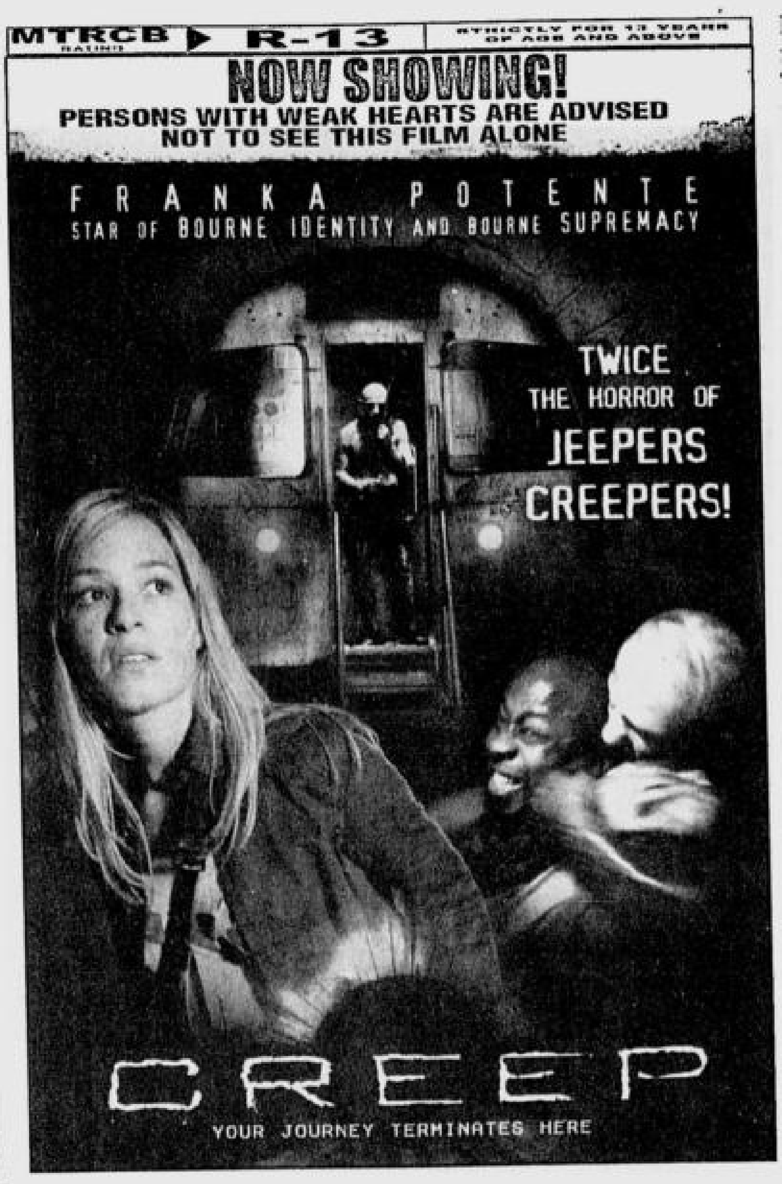
SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
1 FANTASTIC FOUR
IN GOOD COMPANY
FANTASTIC FOUR
WAR OF THE WORLDS

promotime win BIG at SM CINEMA



THE WAR OF THE WORLDS DRAWING CONTEST
Imagine if aliens would invade over the Earth and destroy mankind.
Put that creative idea of yours into a vivid artwork, whether a sketch, painting, collage, computerized image, or any other creative idea you may conceive.
You may submit your entries through e-mail at movieaddicts_smcinema@yahoo.com or give it personally at your nearest SM Cinema branch. Lucky winners will get their artwork published on this space and will win special prizes from United International Pictures.
THIS CONTEST IS EXTENDED UNTIL JULY 12, 2005
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA
CALL NOW 833-9999 CLICK AWAY www.smcinema.com

Baby-faced Kazakh rider stands in Armstrong's way to 7th title


MTRCB R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND ABOVE
NOW SHOWING!
PERSONS WITH WEAK HEARTS ARE ADVISED NOT TO SEE THIS FILM ALONE
FRANKA POTENTE
STAR OF BOURNE IDENTITY AND BOURNE SUPREMACY
TWICE THE HORROR OF JEEPERS CREEPERS!
CREEP
YOUR JOURNEY TERMINATES HERE

PFORZHEIM, Germany—Since the start of the Tour de France last week, one rider has emerged as the main threat to Lance Armstrong's bid for a seventh Tour de France victory—Kazakh Alexander Vinokourov. 'Vino' has come here to win the Tour," said his first pro coach Vincent Lavenu.

"I know Alex very well and I can see little signs, his intensity, his concentration, that he is more determined than ever," said the French Ag2R team director.

Third in the 2003 Tour, the 31-year-old Kazakh was forced out of last year's race through injury but has returned stronger than ever to challenge the six-time Tour champion.

Currently third overall, 6 seconds behind Armstrong, Vinokourov fired a shot across the bows of the Discovery Channel team leader in Thursday's nervy finale in Nancy.

"I took 19 seconds that day and I'm determined to attack Lance again and again, said the Kazakh rider a silver-medalist at the Sydney Olympics.

"That's the way to beat him. I don't know if I can do that, but he can be sure I'l attack him repeatedly."

Vinokourov tried again in Saturday's eighth stage, but soon broke off the attack as the riders began the second-category Col de la Schlucht, opting instead to bide his time. *Reuter*

Nueva Ecija hosts sports summit

THE NUEVA Ecija provincial government will hold its first Sports Summit on July 12 at the Nueva Ecija Convention Center in Palayan City. Participants from the Department of Education, private institutions and local sports enthusiasts will try to come up with a program to develop several disciplines and sports medicine. The project is sponsored by Nueva Ecija Gov. Tomas N. Joson III and Vice Gov. Boyet N. Joson in cooperation with Team Nueva Ecija Foundation chaired by Edward Thomas F. Joson and the Philippine Sports Commission.

Han grabs two-st

SYLVANIA, Ohio—After parring 11 holes in a row, Han Hee-Won rolled in birdie putts on two of the last three holes to cap a 5-under 66 Saturday for a two-stroke lead through three rounds of the Jamie Farr Owens Corning Classic.

Han, who started the day a shot behind Beth Daniel, was at 11-under 202.

To pick up her fourth career win, Han will have to hold off fellow South Korean Jang Jeon a 67 to reach 9 under a her in the final pairing o

"I think it's really goin Han said. "We both know we don't have to speak E

Han has been on th en's tour for the past six fluent in English, but sh comfortable in her nativ

"I still like speaking K said with a grin.

SHANG CINEPLEX

1 FANTASTIC FOUR MTRCB GP 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10 LMF	3 MONSTER IN LAW MTRCB PG-13 11:35, 2:00, 4:25, 6:50, 9:15
2 FANTASTIC FOUR MTRCB GP 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10 LMF	4 WAR OF THE WORLDS MTRCB PG-13 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

PREMIERE THEATRE FANTASTIC FOUR
MTRCB GP 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40 LMF
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

Catch the Cineplex Special
Get your tickets to FANTASTIC FOUR in advance starting July 1, 2005
No extra service fee.
Regular screening begins July 6, 2005

Regular Ticket Price
Cinemas 1 to 4 - P150
Premiere Theatre - P295 (includes unlimited popcorn and beverage)
Call 633-7851, loc 171 or 633-2227 / 633-4735 for more details
Shangri-La Plaza

Bryant regains Nike ads

DENVER—Nike is using photos of Kobe Bryant for the first time since his arrest two years ago for an alleged assault on a female employee at a Colorado resort.

"Nike agrees with most NBA observers that Kobe ranks among the very best players in the NBA, and his training and preparation are key elements of his game," Nike spokesman Rodney Knox said.

The ads appear in Sports Illustrated. His name appeared in an ad earlier this year.

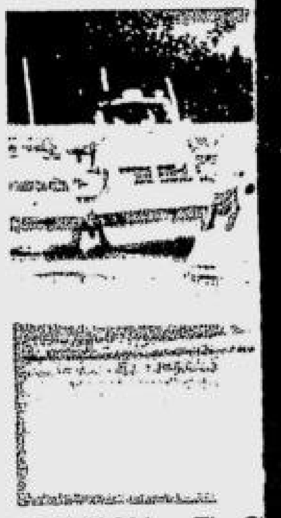
Prosecutors dismissed a rape charge against Bryant last September after his alleged victim refused to go ahead with the case. Bryant publicly apologized to her without admitting any guilt.

A civil suit filed by the alleged victim against Bryant was settled out of court. Its details were not released.

Bryant had signed a $45 million deal with Nike shortly before his arrest. McDonald's and Nutella both dropped Bryant from their roster of celebrity endorsers after his arrest.

Cynthia Stone, spokeswoman for the Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault, criticized Nike's decision.

"Corporations like Nike play a huge part in creating role models for millions of young athletes," she said. "It would be a great inspiration to those young people if the endorsers were not only accomplished athletes, but also had a reputation for positive and ethical conduct." *AP*



SOUTH African Tim Cl

Lafebe Scottis

LUSS, Scotland—Maart slowed down after a h urday and had to settle der 68, giving him a sl lead with Tim Clark in Open that is up for grab

More glorious weat Lomond allowed for an low scores, and seven p share of the lead at so the third round. Only remained there at th though the final round a wild scramble for the

Clark also started added three birdies on back nine for a 6-under him atop the leader Lafeber at 15-under 19

Alastair Forsythe, tr Colin Montgomerie a Scots to win their na since it began in 198 from a few bad swings into 10 feet for birdie and a 25-foot birdie on

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City
ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR FANTASTIC FOUR
For inquiries, call: 687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1 WAR OF THE WORLDS 11:40, 2:20, 5:00 7:40, 10:20 PG-13
2 FANTASTIC FOUR 11:40, 2:20, 5:00 7:40, 10:20 GP
3 FANTASTIC FOUR 12:20, 3:00, 5:40 8:20, 11:00 GP
4 FANTASTIC FOUR 11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30 GP

POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND EX

FANTASTIC FOUR GP 1:05,3:35,6:05,8:35	FANTASTIC FOUR GP 11:55,2:25,4:55, 7:25,9:55	FANTASTIC 4 GP 1:50,4:20,6:50,9:20
WAR OF THE WORLDS PG13 12:00,2:30,5:00,7:30,10:00	MONSTER IN LAW PG13 1:10,3:30,5:50,8:10,10:20	FANTASTIC 4 GP 12:30,3:00,5:30, 8:00,10:30

star group of cinemas movie guide
IN DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND

starmall EDSA-SHAW	METROPOLIS ALABANG star	starmall LAS PIÑAS
Tel. No. 726.61.50	Tel. No. 850.42.85	Tel. No. 873.50.04
3 Kalapati sa Gabi	1 Kalapati sa Gabi	1 War of the Worlds
4 Fantastic 4	2 Creep	2 Rental Reservation
5 War of the Worlds	3 Under Renovation	
	4 Under Renovation	
	5 Fantastic 4	
	6 War of the Worlds	

P70 Lang Dolby Digital Pa!
Experience @ Starmall Edsa 4 & 5
Metropolis Alabang 5 & Starmall Las Piñas 1

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

PIETER Weening celebrates his victory on the podium. REUTERS

Teammates desert Lance

6-time Tour winner fends off rivals on his own

GERARDMER, France—Lance Armstrong looked around for help and found none. He was alone, on a Tour de France climb, his rivals swarming all over him.

Armstrong's usually trusty teammates failed him Saturday as the Tour had its first encounter with the mountains, unable to match the punishing pace set on the day's final ascent by riders determined to bring the six-time Tour champion down.

Digging in deep, Armstrong found the will and the way to fend off most of his challengers and retain his overall race lead.

But the collapse of his Discovery Channel team and the attacks from the German T-Mobile squad bode ill for Armstrong as even harder climbs loom on Sunday and next week in the Alps.

"Definitely, a crisis within our team on the final climb," Armstrong said. "For whatever reason I was left alone. We had a bad day as a team and that makes it that much harder and I had to cover some big moves myself."

"If it's two more weeks of days like today then you're in trouble."

T-Mobile is built around a trident of challengers—Jan Ullrich, Andreas Kloeden and Alexandre Vinokourov—whom Armstrong has decisively beaten in the past. This Tour represents their last chance for revenge because Armstrong will retire at the end of the three-week race on July 24.

LANCE Armstrong (in yellow) finds himself in the middle of a serious test. AFP

Ullrich won the Tour in 1997 but has since finished runner-up to Armstrong three times. Kloeden was second last year, when Armstrong got his record sixth win. Vinokourov, third in 2003, is perhaps the biggest danger. The Kazakhstan champion has explosive acceleration on climbs, is unpredictable and hungers for success having missed the Tour through injury last year.

He was first to attack Armstrong on the final Col de la Schlucht climb, surging ahead. Armstrong accelerated and caught him, only for Vinokourov to break again, following French rider Christophe Moreau of the Credit Agricole team.

Once more, Armstrong laid chase, followed by Ullrich. But Paolo Savoldelli, the only one of Armstrong's eight teammates who managed to stay with them to this point, was unable to match the bursts of speed, falling back and leaving Armstrong alone.

Armstrong and the other riders eyed each other warily as they continued ascending.

Then, after another attack from Vinokourov, Kloeden suddenly sprinted ahead. Armstrong, knowing that the German trailed him by 2 minutes, 29 seconds in the overall standings, cut his losses and let him go, concentrating his energies instead on staying with Vinokourov and Ullrich.

"You have to pick your fights. You can't cover them all," said Armstrong. "I was trying to do my best and minimize the damage."

Pieter Weening of the Rabobank team was riding up ahead. Kloeden caught the Dutch rider at the top of the 16.8-kilometer- (10.4-mile-) long ascent, and they raced downhill to the finish in Gerardmer, in eastern France.

There, Weening beat Kloeden in a sprint. He covered the 231.5-km (143.8-mile) route, which started in the German town of Pforzheim, in 5 hours, 3 minutes and 54 seconds. *AP*

roke margin

, who shot
d will join
Sunday.
to be fun,"
Korean, so
glish."
US wom-
ears and is
s still more
tongue.
rean," she

Defending champion Meg Mallon and 50-year-old Marilyn Lovander—winless in 180 career US LPGA Tour starts—were 8 under after 68s. Leta Lindley was alone in fifth place at 7 under after a 68.

US Women's Open champion Birdie Kim (71), Yim Sung Ah (68). Heather Bowie (69) and Becky Morgan (68), who shared the first-round lead with Kim, were all at 6 under. *AP*

ark putts on the 17th green. REUTERS

r, Clark lead h Open golf

en Lafeber
t start Sat-
for a 3-un-
are of the
a Scottish

er at Loch
ther day of
yers had a
e point in
wo players
end, al-
gures to be
ophy.
trong and
he tougher
65, putting
oard with

ing to join
the only
ional open
recovered
th a 9-iron
n the 15th
he last for a

67. He is only one shot behind with Angel Cabrera (68).

Adam Scott posted the best round of a calm, sunny day along the bonnie banks with a 7-under 64 that left him in a group at 201 that included Darren Clarke (69) and Thongchai Jaidee (66).

In all, 15 players were within five shots of the lead going into the final round.

Lafeber made it all possible, at first threatening to run away from the field, then stalling over the final 14 holes to let everyone back into the tournament.

"That was the goal, to be in the lead after three rounds," Lafeber said. "That's what I did, and it's very satisfying."

Montgomerie had a 66 and was at 10-under, but said he had no chance. At the time, Lafeber was still on the front nine, and Monty figured he would be at least eight or nine shots behind at the day's end *AP*

HALL OF FAME
International Tennis Hall of Fame inductees (L-R) Earl "Butch" Buchholz of the US, Yannick Noah of France, Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic, who is best remembered for her Wimbledon breakdown against Steffi Graf, and Jim Courier of the US pose for photographs after induction ceremonies in Newport, Rhode. REUTERS

The Power to Surprise™

KIA
Now the fastest-growing automaker in the world...*

and in the Philippines.+

* BASED ON THE PUBLISHED SURVEY OF GLOBAL INSIGHT, DECEMBER 2004
+ BASED ON 2005 FIRST QUARTER SALES REPORT, CAMPI

KIA
KIA MOTORS
We tell it as it is.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Gadi routs Dalisay for junior boys' title; Velez also triumphs

TOBY Gadi of Golden Shuttle Foundation (GSF) capped his amazing run with a masterful 15-10, 15-2 victory over Kevin Dalisay of PNP/JLTC/Victor to bag the boys' juniors plum yesterday in the JVC Open Badminton Championships at the Glorietta Activity Center.

Karyn Velez, also of GSF, routed Cheska Bermejo of Capiz Badminton, 11-0, 11-2, to win the girls' title and underscore their team's domination of what has become the unofficial national championships sponsored by JVC (Phils.) Inc.

Riding the crest of his stunning upset win over fancied Kelvin Tim Ang in the semifinals on Thursday, the 15-year-old Gadi shrugged off a tough first-set win to defeat Dalisay and pocket the top P7,000 purse plus gift items.

Velez never gave Bermejo room to put up a good fight to run away with the girls' crown in the event organized by IMG and backed by Alaska, Gosen, Chris Sports, Rudy Project, Technomarine, Nokia, Lactacyd, Pioneer Life, Bacchus and Akari. She also took home P7,000.

The Philippine Star, meanwhile, downed Meralco, 2-1, to capture the corporate crown worth P50,000. Meralco settled for P30,000.

The Starmen leaned on the mixed doubles pair of Chester Cordero and Annalyn Delgado, who bested Meralco's Joel Noga and Flor Vivas, 15-0, 15-2, to clinch the tie.

Earlier, the two teams split the doubles event with the Star's Melody Villaceran and Dalia Santiago prevailing over the tandem of Criselda Sarabia and Diana Barbo, 15-9, 15-7, and Meralco's men's double team of Danila Ildefonso and Reynaldo Selga beating Rodolfo Gutierrez and Jopet Sison, 15-4, 15-6.

80 fights up in Hatawan semis today

MORE than 80 fights are on tap as the Hatawan Sa Tag-ulan 6-Cock Derby enters its semifinal round at 5 p.m. today at the Roligon Mega Cockpit. Derby host Rolly Ligon said a surprise bonus prize of P500,000 awaits participants who will emerge as day champions in the 4-cock round of the event sponsored by Lakpue Drugs Inc. and Thunderbird Power Feeds. "We are giving participants with low scores in the elimination round the chance to recover their investments," Ligon said yesterday. "It is still possible for any of them to emerge as solo day champion and win P500,000." Meanwhile the 2-pointers will battle among themselves on Wednesday for the championship. From a field of 306 entries, 54 have posted two points apiece. Center bets will again be squared by *llamadores* Renato Shio, Gerald Vandolf Go of Sta. Ana and Abu Centeno. For inquiries, call 8512275, 8331638 or 8529812.

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
6th floor Shangri-la Plaza EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City
Telephone: 633.2227 / 6337851 loc. 171
1 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR GP
2 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR GP
3 (DOLBY) MONSTER IN LAW PG13
4 (DOLBY) WAR OF THE WORLDS PG13
PREMIERE
(DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR GP

Filinvest
FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DDS) FANTASTIC FOUR
2 (SDDS) FANTASTIC FOUR
3 (DTS) WAR OF THE WORLDS
4 GOLD (DTS) BATMAN BEGINS
5 GOLD (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
6 GOLD (SDDS) WAR OF THE WORLDS
7 GOLD (DOLBY) HOTEL RWANDA
8 (DOLBY STEREO) MR AND & MRS SMITH
9 (DOLBY STEREO) CREEP
10 (DOLBY STEREO) MONSTER IN LAW

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City) tel 687.6963 or 72
1 (DOLBY) WAR OF THE WORLDS
2 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
3 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
4 (DOLBY) WAR OF THE WORLDS

CINEMA 2000
Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216
1 WAR OF THE WORLDS
2 FANTASTIC FOUR
3 MONSTER IN LAW
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

Universal
(Manila) tel: 7334043 or 2470
FANTASTIC FOUR

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7266150
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 KALAPATI SA GABI
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) FANTASTIC FOUR
5 WAR OF THE WORLDS

METROPOLIS star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 5433994
1 KALAPATI SA GABI
2 CREEP
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED
5 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
6 WAR OF THE WORLDS

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas) tel (047) 237.7007
1 (DOLBY) BATMAN BEGINS
2 RESERVED

Blue Wave MARQUINTON
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sto. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927
1 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
2 (DOLBY) WAR OF THE WORLDS
3 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
4 (DOLBY) MR. & MRS. SMITH

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
tel 733.4238
1 (DOLBY) SOON TO OPEN
2 SOON TO OPEN
3 SOON TO OPEN
4 SOON TO OPEN
5 SOON TO OPEN

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
3 TAGOS SA LAMAN
4 RESERVED

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274
1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
3 KALAPATI SA GABI

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) FANTASTIC FOUR
2 SHUTTER
3 (DTS EX) FANTASTIC FOUR
4 WAR OF THE WORLDS

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121
1 WAR OF THE WORLDS
2 SHUTTER
3 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
4 (DTS) FANTASTIC FOUR

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489
1 SHUTTER
2 HITCH HIKER'S GUIDE
3 (DOLBY) BATMAN BEGINS
4 (DTS) MR. & MRS. SMITH

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 BATMAN BEGINS
2 HAPPILY EVER AFTER

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 AMITYVILL HORROR
2 (DTS) FANTASTIC FOUR
3 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
4 WAR OF THE WORLDS

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
1 WAR OF THE WORLDS
2 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
3 (DTS) FANTASTIC FOUR
4 SIX

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 BATMAN BEGINS
2 SHUTTER
3 (DOLBY) MR. & MRS. SMITH

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 COACH CARTER
2 RING OF NIBELUNGS
3 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
4 (DTS) MR & MRS SMITH

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320
1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 FANTASTIC FOUR
3 (DOLBY) WAR OF THE WORLDS

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) BATMAN BEGINS
2 KALAPATI SA GABI
3 TWO TIMER
4 (DTS) CREEP

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
2 SIX
3 (DTS) AMITYVILL HORROR
4 TWO TIMER
5 WAR OF THE WORLDS

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 SHAOLIN'S EVIL DEAD
2 SHUTTER
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
4 WAR OF THE WORLDS

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 KALAPATI SA GABI
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GREENHILLS CINEMAS
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA
THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 WAR OF THE WORLDS PG13 11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10
CINEMA 2 FANTASTIC 4 GP 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:20
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
PROMENADE GREENHILLS
...a dinetertainment for all!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 3 WAR OF THE WORLDS PG13 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
CINEMA 4 FANTASTIC 4 GP 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
CINEMA 5 FANTASTIC 4 GP 10:30, 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 11:00
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL: 722 4496.
MUSIC MUSEUM
JULY 29 & 30 SOULSISTERS (Jessa, Marissa & Ara) 8PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

Araneta Center Leisure Guide
FULLY BOOKED PRESENTS
NEIL GAIMAN
BOOK SIGNING
TODAY AT 4PM
UPPER GROUND FLOOR
ACTIVITY AREA
GATEWAY MALL

CINEMA SCHEDULES
Gateway Cineplex 10
LEVEL 4, GATEWAY MALL
ONLY P99 ADMISSION
P120 RESERVED SEATS
P140 WAR OF THE WORLDS
BATMAN BEGINS & FANTASTIC 4
DOLBY DIGITAL-EX
FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL TICKETNET AT 911-5555
MR & MRS SMITH
1:30 / 4:00 / 6:30 / 9:00
WAR OF THE WORLDS
1:20 / 2:10 / 4:10 / 5:00 / 7:00 / 7:50 / 9:50
MONSTER IN LAW
2:45 / 5:15 / 7:45 / 10:00
FANTASTIC FOUR
12:10 / 12:50 / 1:30 / 3:00
3:40 / 4:20 / 5:50 / 6:30
7:10 / 8:40 / 9:20 / 10:00
BATMAN BEGINS
1:00 / 3:50 / 6:40 / 9:30
CREEP
12:35 / 2:45 / 4:55 / 7:05 / 9:15
GLOBE PLATINUM CINEMA
ADMISSION : P 299 / Globe Platinum Subscribers P249
FANTASTIC FOUR
1:30 / 4:20 / 7:10 / 10:00
ALI MALL CINEMAS
❶ FANTASTIC FOUR 12:30 / 3:20 / 6:10 / 9:00
❷ WAR OF THE WORLDS 11:30 / 1:50 / 4:10 / 6:30 / 8:50
❸ BATMAN BEGINS 12:20 / 3:00 / 5:40 / 8:20
❹ KALAPATI SA GABI 12:00 / 2:05 / 4:10 / 6:15 / 8:20
❺ CREEP 11:30 / 1:40 / 3:50 / 6:00 / 8:10
DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS
ARANETA COLISEUM EVENTS
July 13, Wednesday PBA FINALS - GAME 6 (*If nec.*) *7:30 pm San Miguel vs Talk n Text*
July 16 *UAAP GAMES* Adu vs FEU *10am Jrs / 2pm Srs* ADMU vs UST *12nn Jrs / 4pm Srs*
July 21 *UAAP GAMES* ADMU vs FEU *10am Jrs / 4pm Srs* UST vs Adu *12nn Jrs / 2pm Srs*
JOHN MAXWELL ASIAN TOUR 2005 *July 22, Friday 6:00 pm*
CENTER EVENTS
NEW STORES: ***Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf** at the Cineplex 10 Lobby, **Pizza Hut** at Level 3, **Menage Salon** at Level 2, **Teriyaki Boy** at Level 3, all at Gateway Mall*
PERFORMANCES: ***Guarana** on July 15, **Acoustic Jive** on July 16 & **Mon David** on July 17 at the Gateway Roxas Tunnel*
EXHIBITS: ***Herbie: Fully Loaded** life-size replica on display ongoing until July 13 at the Gateway Cineplex 10 Lobby*
***Mega Magazine's 10 Most Beautiful Women Exhibit** ongoing until July 15 at the Upper Ground Floor of Gateway Mall*
LOG ON TO www.aranetacenter.net FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY E-MAIL ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES

MTRCB RATING ▶ G GENERAL PATRONAGE | ALL AGES ADMITTED

THE THING
MR. FANTASTIC
INVISIBLE WOMAN
HUMAN TORCH
NOW SHOWING
FANTASTIC 4 FOUR
MARVEL

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

MOVIEWORLD

CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA 632-9115/16

1 FANTASTIC FOUR • THX
1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00

2 FANTASTIC FOUR
12:00 2:15 4:30 6:45 9:00

3 SHANGHAI LILY
12:00 2:15 4:30 6:45 9:00

4 CREEP
1:05 3:15 5:25 7:35 9:45

5 WAR OF THE WORLDS
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

6 FANTASTIC FOUR
12:30 2:45 5:00 7:30 10:00

7 BATMAN BEGINS
1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00

8 MONSTER-IN-LAW
12:45 3:10 5:35 8:00 10:00

9 WAR OF THE WORLDS
2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30

10 MR. AND MRS. SMITH
1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
12:50 3:10 5:30 7:50 10:00

2 CREEP
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

3 MONSTER-IN-LAW
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

4 FANTASTIC FOUR
12:00 2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20

5 FANTASTIC FOUR
12:00 2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20

6 BATMAN BEGINS
12:00 3:15 6:30 9:45

7 WAR OF THE WORLDS
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

METRO EAST 682-8193 • 682-8199

1 MONSTER-IN-LAW
1:30 4:00 6:30 9:00

2 FANTASTIC FOUR
12:15 2:50 5:25 8:00

3 MR. AND MRS. SMITH
1:30 2:15 4:30 6:45 9:00

4 WAR OF THE WORLDS
12:00 2:15 4:30 6:45 9:00

5 BATMAN BEGINS
12:00 3:00 6:00 9:00

6 FANTASTIC FOUR
4:50 7:25

7 FANTASTIC FOUR
2:15 4:50

8 CREEP
2:10 4:30 6:50 9:10

CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2575

1 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

PIONEER 687-5378

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
4 BATMAN BEGINS

In 1936 Shanghai, the whole world ran on power, money and sex...
Shanghai Lily
the secret... the deception... the desire...

The most controversial erotic thriller of the year...

exclusively at

Robinsons Movieworld
GALLERIA

starting
July 06

MTRCB Rating: R-18
Strictly for adults only
due to its graphic sexual content!

For SCREENING SCHEDULE, pls. call our CINEMA ACCESS at 635-5555 or visit us: www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

STA. ROSA (049) 837-0907

1 WAR OF THE WORLDS
2 SHUTTER
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

LIPA (043) 757-3664 (043) 312-5870

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 SHUTTER
3 BATMAN BEGINS
4 WAR OF THE WORLDS

DASMARIÑAS (046) 852-2125 (046) 416-4332

1 WAR OF THE WORLDS
2 MONSTER-IN-LAW
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

ANGELES (045) 892-2348

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
3 SHUTTER
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

IMUS (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188

1 HOTEL RWANDA
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
3 BATMAN BEGINS
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

STARMILLS (045) 875-1927 (045) 961-6270

1 COACH CARTER
2 TAGOS SA LAMAN
3 HOTEL RWANDA
4 WAR OF THE WORLDS
5 FANTASTIC FOUR
6 FANTASTIC FOUR

BACOLOD (034) 441-0453 (034) 441-0459

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
4 PREMONITION
5 COACH CARTER
6 DARKNESS

ILOILO (033) 336-8070

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
3 PREMONITION
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

The
Perfect Gift
All Year Round

A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

Get Special discounts for volume purchases!

For marketing and events/reservations please call Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 locals 14 and 15

AYALA CENTER
GLORIETTA • GREENBELT

ALABANG TOWN

AYALA CENTER
CEBU

AYALA MALLS
Lovemall!

TIMEZONE celebrates DISNEY

Soon to be available on July 15!
DISNEY SPORTS SERIES

These collectible Powercards are available for P200. This shall be inclusive of P175 worth of game load plus 5 free games.

COLLECT ALL 6!

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
BLISS Interior for the Wedded Exhibit June 30, 2005	Anson's Exhibit June 30, 2005	Eden Dy Bazaar until June 30, 2005

AYALA GREENBELT

Mega Magazine's
Ten Most Beautiful Women Photo Exhibit
June 24-30, 2005

GREENBELT 1 Onstage AYALA CENTER

"DON'T THINK" - A multi-media performance
by Marge Enriquez (By Invitational Only)
Directed by Bart Guingona & Choreographed by Douglas Nierras
July 28,2005

Ayala MUSEUM

Registration for Art Workshops now on-going at Ayala Museum
For inquiries, please call 757-7117 to 21 loc 29.
Online registration at www.ayalamuseum.org

AYALA CINEMAS

AYALA CINEMAS

THX

Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729 7777

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
G1 GLORIETTA 1	FANTASTIC 4	WAR OF THE WORLDS	MONSTER-IN-LAW	FANTASTIC 4t			
G4 GLORIETTA 4	WAR OF THE WORLDS	FANTASTIC 4	THX FANTASTIC 4 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 11:00 GUARANTEED SEATS	BATMAN BEGINS	MONSTER-IN-LAW	FANTASTIC 4	FANTASTIC 4
GB1 GREENBELT 1	WAR OF THE WORLDS 11:00, 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00	FANTASTIC 4 11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10					
GB3 GREENBELT 3	THX FANTASTIC 4 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	THX FANTASTIC 4 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 GUARANTEED SEATS	FANTASTIC 4 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	FANTASTIC 4 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 11:00 GUARANTEED SEATS	WAR OF THE WORLDS GUARANTEED SEATS		
ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	THX FANTASTIC 4	WAR OF THE WORLDS	FANTASTIC 4	FANTASTIC 4	MONSTER-IN-LAW		
ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU	FANTASTIC 4	WAR OF THE WORLDS	FANTASTIC 4	BATMAN BEGINS			

NOW SHOWING
AT ALL AYALA CINEMAS

FANTASTIC FOUR

For screening schedule, call 729-7777

Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservation

MTRCB Rating: General Audience (G)

AYALA CINEMAS

20th CENTURY FOX

PREPARE FOR THE FANTASTIC
FANTASTIC FOUR

Customer Service text hotline:	0917 6095900
Customer Service text hotline:	Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 8pm Greenbelt - 757 4853; from 11am to 12mn
Alabang Town Center -	842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu -	(032) 231 5342 loc 324

▲▲

All-Digital Cinemas

MARKET! MARKET!

The fun is in the finds

Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc.

Movies are subject to change without prior notice.
Customer Service Hotline: 886-7515

Free Seating Cinemas: P70.00

①	Mr. & Mrs. Smith
②	Fantastic 4
③	Fantastic 4
④	Batman Begins

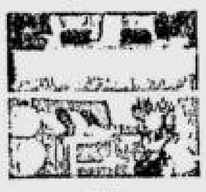
Guaranteed Seats Cinemas: P90.00

⑤	Monster-in-Law
⑥	War of the Worlds
⑦	Fantastic 4

EVENTS! EVENTS!

Great
Home Finds,
for Less!

MARKET! MARKET!



SM

BPI EXPRESS CREDIT

HURRY! GET REAL 0% ON HOME FINDS!

July 10-Aug. 31, 2005, Home Market, 3rd Level

Per DTI NCR Permit No. A2-354 Series of 2005

SPORTS

New champions emerge in NM marathon elims

ARNOLD Unabia cools himself during the race in Cagayan de Oro City.

CAGAYAN DE ORO—Arnold Unabia and Helen Tacling both finished strong to rule the Northern Mindanao eliminations of the 29th National Milo Marathon yesterday at the Pelaez Sports Center here.

Running the 21K distance for the first time, Unabia overhauled two-time regional champion Juniel Laguido in the final kilometer to win in 1 hour, 11 minutes and 37 seconds.

Laguido came home 17 seconds behind with Roger Sawin-ay placing third in 1:12:26 to complete the list of three male qualifiers to the 42K National Finals in Metro Manila on Oct. 9.

Tacling improved on her third-place finish last year by pulling away from three-time leg winner Aileen Tolentino with 2.5 km left.

The 29-year-old Tacling clocked 1:30:43 with Tolentino, 22, finishing second in 1:31:25. Cecile Topia was a far third in 1:42:10.

The three top female runners also made it to the National Finals.

Unabia used to dominate the 5K event of the annual race but moved up this year to the 21K race, where he also proved a winner.

"I'll try to also perform well in my first 42K race in October," said Unabia in Filipino.

Laguido, who vowed to get back at Unabia in the National Finals, said he had no more to give in the final kilometer of the race held in partnership with Bayview Park Hotel, adidas, Cebu Pacific, Smart Kid, Department of Tourism, Addict Mobile Prepaid, and Power Bar.

The male and female 5K fun run was ruled by Mansawi Lala (15:47) and Jennielyn Grace Topia (20:26).

The Kiddies 3K race was dominated by Joshua Abolanda and Jaimie Tacling in the 6-9 age category and Earth Alberio and Richie Dala in the 10-12 group.

Misamis Oriental Gov. Oscar Moreno fired the starting gun to send off the 10,077 runners in the 3K, 5K and 21K events.

The 29th National Milo Marathon resumes in Lipa City on July 17 where another 7,000 runners are expected to participate.

Gonzales leads biggest ever RP team to World Junior golf

THE JUNIOR Golf Foundation of the Philippines is sending its biggest delegation so far of 48 players to the Callaway Junior World golf championships starting in San Diego, California, on Tuesday (Wednesday in Manila) with high hopes of sustaining a streak of victories in the lower divisions.

JR Gonzales, the lefty who scored a thrilling victory in the boys' 7-8 years division last year, will be leading the large contingent made up of 26 boys and 22 girls, the core of which enjoys support from the country's national flag carrier, Philippine Airlines, and Samsung Philippines.

Gonzales is moving up to the 9-10 years age group this year and will be backing up the expected solid bid of Miguel Tabuena, already the owner of two international victories this year.

The girls are led by the multititled Dottie Ardina, the ponytailed sensation who won the girls' 8-under three years ago, placed fifth the next year and barely missed winning a second title when she lost the 9-10 years battle to a Korean-American last year by a mere stroke.

Other players tipped to figure well in the competition featuring more than a thousand players from about 50 countries are Tonton Asistio and Debbie dela Paz in Class A (15-17 years), JikJik Abdon, Crystal Superal, Cyna Rodriguez and Debbie de Villa in Class B (13-14), Wolen Superal and Marcel Puyat in Class C, JR Ramos and Princess Superal in Class E (7-8) and Ryan Monsalve and Abby Arevalo in Class F (6 under).

Raoul Lachica, president of Jungolf, said that while much of the country's hopes are in the lower divisions, those in competitive categories like Class A and Class B may just pull a surprise.

"Our bets in boys' Class A and Class B have been playing in major events for almost a year now and should be in peak form in time for the Junior World," said Lachica.

Also providing support to the delegation are Bernie Cabrera, Iselectric Ltd., Manila Southwoods, Capitol Hills, Makati Golf and Unilever.

ippineairlines.com
FOUNDATION ... PHILIPPINES

THIRTY-ONE of the 48 jungolfers vying in the World Juniors during a send-off party hosted by the JGFP recently

A Revolutionary breakthrough in hair restoration is now available!
Image Associates proudly introduces a state of the art method of hair reconstruction direct from the United States, Veralex™.
IMAGE ASSOCIATES
98 Herrera, Suite 714 Corner Valero Street
Salcedo Village Makati
845-0879
www.theimageassociates.com
The Veralex™ process using 100% human implanted hair, grafted with non-surgical infusion can be done in just two office visits. No donor area is required and coverage is unlimited.
Veralex™ is one of the most natural and undetectable process used today. It requires no surgery, no daily maintenance, no mesh, and no tape. The result are astounding!

SEAG must go on for athletes' sake

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

I SALUTE sports officials for rallying behind the hosting of this year's Southeast Asian Games in the midst of a critical economic and political crisis because it is an international commitment which should be honored at all cost for the sake of the athletes who will be competing in the biennial meet.

"It will push through," said Philippine Southeast Asian Games Organizing Committee (Philsoc) chair Roberto "Obet" Pagdanganan. "And despite the prevailing fiscal problems and political turmoil, I am confident that we can stage the multination event successfully on Nov. 27-Dec. 5."

Former Rep. Jose "Peping" Cojuangco, Philsoc vice chair and president of the Philippine Olympic Committee, also said that the SEA Games will be held as scheduled although he admitted that the present political situation could drive away potential sponsors. Thus far, Philsoc has raised only 60 percent of the P1.1 billion needed to hold this year's SEAG, which the Philippines will be hosting for the third time.

The absence of First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, who is in voluntary exile in the United States, has also affected the Philsoc's fund-raising program, but Cojuangco spokesperson Jose Romasanta allayed fears by pointing out that the "godfather" project of the FG Sports Foundation is still in place.

On the other hand, Philippine Sports Commission chair Butch Ramirez batted for unity among Filipinos in these troubled times and cited the importance of staging the SEA Games here. Said he: "It would take another 20 years before the Philippines gets another chance to host this biennial meet. We have to make the most out of this opportunity by also making our foreign guests happy and, at the same time, show them that we can win the overall championship, fair and square."

"The SEA Games must go on," stressed Go Teng Kok, special assistant to POC president Peping Cojuangco. "We must hold the Games not only to honor an obligation but also to honor the region's athletes who have trained very hard and traveled far to come to the Philippines and take part in this once-every-two-years event," added Go, who also heads the chess and athletics associations.

* * *

HOW SAFE ARE OUR FIGHTING COCKS? I am raising this question because the dreaded bird flu virus has been detected in a duck and chicken farm in Calumpit, Bulacan. And even though outgoing Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap said what was detected in Calumpit was the low-risk H5 strain and not the deadly H59N1 strain of the bird flu disease, I am still worried. Bird flu has killed 54 people in Asia so far while millions of chickens and ducks have been culled to contain it.

Since last year, the bird flu disease has affected several Asian countries. In Thailand, the virus was even detected in a fighting cock, reason enough for several Filipino cocker-breeders to worry. But not Rey Briones.

A former colleague in the defunct Evening Post, the soft-spoken Briones now breeds fighting cocks in his farms in Masbate, Pampanga and Bacolod City. "All my fighting cocks are well taken care of . We have taken preventive measures by giving our chickens regular doses of antibiotics and multivitamins. Our farms are clean and well-maintained," said Briones, who emerged World Slasher champion in 2003 and 2005 Pasay Cockpit Cocker of the Year. "There's nothing to worry about."

"We must do everything to ensure H5N1 does not enter the country," said Health Secretary Francisco Duque. "There is no cause for alarm."

To prevent the spread of the bird flu strain, Yap said the agriculture and health departments will be adopting strict and tight measures, including the immediate culling of the affected flocks, imposing a ban on the movement and sale of live poultry within a three-kilometer radius from the affected farm and testing of all poultry farms in nearby areas.

More than 140 million chickens have been culled to contain the bird flu outbreak. The disease is considered by medical experts as comparable, if not deadlier, than SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome). Bird flu cases have been reported in Thailand, Vietnam, China, South Korea, Cambodia, Laos, Pakistan, Taiwan and Indonesia.

Asia is a main source of chickens and ducks, supplying 27 percent of the world's poultry needs. Economic experts said that if the bird flu outbreak is not contained in the region, it would devastate Asia's poultry industry and leave thousands of people jobless. Bird flu contamination is also possible in humans, especially the handlers who feed, touch and fondle the body and feathers of the fighting cocks while preparing these feathered warriors for upcoming fights.

THE ULTIMATE FOOD SHOW EXPERIENCE!
WOFEX 2005
WORLD'S FOOD EXPO
5th International Exposition on Worldwide Food & Beverages
FULLY BOOKED
Now Ready For Business!
WORLD FOOD SUMMIT
SEMINAR ROOM A
AUGUST 3 (DAY 1)
11:00AM How to Manage Your Catering Business (P300)
2:00PM How to Choose a Safe & Roadworthy Truck for Your Business by BSB Group Inc
3:00PM Hydrocolloids, stabilizers for baking, food, sauces application by Camden Industries Inc
AUGUST 4 (DAY 2)
1:00PM The World Needs Filipino Bartenders by Asian Bartending Academy
3:00PM A Guide To Metal Detection in the Food Processing and Packaging Industries by Handyware Phils
4:00PM Frenchbaker Seminar (with fee)
AUGUST 5 (DAY 3)
1:00PM Getting Into the Donut & Ice Cream Business by Handyware Phils
2:30PM Sanitation & Preventive Maintenance in the Food Industry by Handyware Philippines
3:00PM Fruit & Vegetable Carving by HRCAP (P500)
AUGUST 6 (DAY 4)
1:00PM Seminar by Ajinomoto Philippines
2:00PM Asian Cuisine &Plating with ISCAHM (P500)
SEMINAR ROOM B
AUGUST 3 (DAY 1)
12:00NN Ensuring the Success of Your Marketing Plan by Josiah Go President Mansmith & Fielders Inc.
2:00PM Computerization of Financial & Manufacturing Processes of SMEs by ABM Computech
3:00PM All About Franchising by RK Franchise Consultancy
AUGUST 4 (DAY 2)
1:00PM J Channel Ingredients Workshop/Seminar on Meat Processing
AUGUST 5 (DAY 3)
12:00NN HACCP Seminar by Certified International
1:00PM Halal Designing the Future of Food Industry by Most Institute
3:00PM International Trends in Catering by Sunnex
4:00PM Proper Handling of LPG by Petron Gasul Corp.
AUGUST 6 (DAY 4)
1:00PM Live Life Better Healthy Weight Management by Mind, Body & Soul
2:00PM Getting into the Cart Business by Sam's Balls Inc.
3:00PM Success Secrets of Chinese Traders by Chots Pinda
4:00PM How to Start a Meat Processing Plant
Co-Located Events
BAKER'S FAIR
TASTE EXPO
FOODMACH 2005 Expo
WORLD FOOD SUMMIT
TASTE EXPO
AUGUST 3 (Wednesday- DAY 1)
11:00AM Halal Cooking with International Chefs by Most Institute
1:00PM Thai Cooking with BNL Inc
2:00PM Culinary / Baking Demo by Scarossa Overseas Inc
3:00PM Grand Liquored Coffee Challenge with the Philippine Bartender's League (PBL)
AUGUST 4 (Thursday -DAY 2)
11:00AM Halal Cooking with International Chefs by Most Institute
1:00PM Coffeeology by Robert Francisco Boyd Coffee Co
3:00PM Hotel &Restaurant Chefs Association of the Philippines (HRCAP) Market Basket Challenge
5:00PM Demo by Asian Bartending Academy
AUGUST 5 (Friday -DAY 3)
11:00AM Candies & Marmalade by Spices & Foodmix
12:00NN Demo by Gardenia
1:00PM Cooking with Mega Sardines
2:00PM Cooking Demo by MCN Distributors, Inc
3:00PM Master Flairtending Competition - The Next Level with the Philippine Bartender's League (PBL)
AUGUST 6 (Saturday DAY 4)
11:00PM Culinary Competitions by Cook Magazine
3:00PM Baking Demo by Del Monte Philippines
4:00PM Ice Cream Scoopetition by Nestle Philippines
Schedules subject to change without prior notice.
www.wofex.com
August 3-6, 2005 World Trade Center
Another First-Rate Project of
Premier Events Plus Group, Inc.
making things happen!
TEL. (632) 9297993, 9297963, 9208136, 4364209, 4269603 FAX 9297993
COMPANY WEBSITE : WWW.PEPGROUP.COM * EMAIL : INFO@PEPGROUP.COM
PRESENTED BY: GASUL
SPONSORS AND MEDIA PARTNERS
Visit WOFEX and enjoy 30% Discount on airfare! CEBU PACIFIC
Ansell J-Channel Ingredients Corp. AJINOMOTO kolin GENETIC INQUIRER appetite COOK Entrepreneur FLAVORS FOOD

Miriam takes on real-life challenge

MIRIAM Quiambao-Rondinelli: All my needs are being met. ERIK ARAZAS

By Marinel R. Cruz

HONG KONG—Miriam Quiambao has admitted suffering anxiety and depression when she got separated from her family in the Philippines. The former beauty queen-TV host decided to settle here after marrying Italian businessman Claudio Rondinelli.

"It lasted until May of this year. I missed my family and friends terribly. I got very emotional. I cried a lot. So my husband would always send me home," Miriam told INQUIRER Entertainment in an interview on board the Jumbo Floating Restaurant.

Miriam was introduced to Hong Kong-based Claudio in 2003 by Filipino designer Rhett Eala. The couple got married in Boracay a year later. Before she left for Hong Kong in 2004, Miriam co-hosted GMA 7's top-rating reality show, "Extra Challenge," with Paolo Bediones. She was also host of the Sunday magazine show "All About You."

"Doctors said my depression was normal because I left my career and was uprooted from the Philippines," Miriam explained. "That's why when I flew to the Philippines for a vacation last May, I stayed for two weeks. I had lunch, snacks and dinner with different sets of friends. I even appeared on 'Unang Hirit.'"

She added: "When I got back here, I said enough with homesickness. I have to accept the fact that my husband is my new family now. To get myself off depression, I started taking classes and seminars on personality development, and attended conventions."

Miriam took classes on jewelry making and speed reading as well, and now plans to attend a seminar in Singapore on business and investments.

"I told myself, why search for what's missing rather than [enjoy what] I already have?" Miriam pointed out.

She joined the crew of "Extra Challenge" when they shot for the show's "Lagalag sa Hong Kong" series. INQUIRER Entertainment witnessed the reunion.

How has life been?

Very good. I feel very blessed to have a loving and understanding husband. All my needs are being met. Everything is new to me; it's exciting.

I travel a lot. Every two months, my husband and I fly to Italy. We spend a month there then come back here. He holds office in both countries. While we're in Italy, we sometimes go to London, or to Barcelona. In Asia, I got to visit Japan on a skiing trip. In summer, we go to Bali in Indonesia or Phuket in Thailand.

Is a baby forthcoming?

We're still settling in our new house here. We just sold the old one. Having a baby will require a lot of adjustments. I prefer to deal with things one at a time.

Do you miss "Extra Challenge?"

I miss the people behind the show. I miss co-hosting with Paolo. I miss the producers, writers and cameramen.

My favorite challenge was the one I did on my last birthday with 'Extra! Extra!" I climbed Mt. Pulag, the second highest mountain in the Philippines, with the staff. When we reached the summit, I found that the crew had set up a big birthday party for me, complete with letters from my parents. I felt truly loved; I cried.

The success of the show is dependent not only on its hosts, Paolo and Ethel, but also on the people behind the camera. I wish them continued success.

REUNITED in Hong Kong recently with former colleagues Paolo Bediones and Ethel Booba ERIK ARAZAS

What can you say about Ethel as your replacement?

I'm very proud of her. She brings a lot of humor into the show. She's lucky because she came into the show when it already had a big following. "Extra" opened many doors for her. I wish her well. Ethel, strike while the iron is hot.

Your marriage is something every Filipina dreams of. What more do you wish for?

We have good and bad days. [But] I believe our relationship is perfect, regardless of the good and bad days. What more do I aspire for? Babies. How many? We'll start with one. If we are blessed with more, we will eagerly welcome them.

Is there anything about Hong Kong that makes you think about the Philippines?

The Filipinos I meet remind me so much of our country. They ask me where Paolo is (laughs). I tell them he's with Ethel now.

Aleck Bovick: I am not sleeping with my producer

By Nini Valera

AWARDS have given sexy Aleck Bovick a phobia.

Just two weeks after winning the Best Supporting Actress trophy from the Famas for her role in director Maryo J. de los Reyes' "Naglalayag," the feisty actress told INQUIRER Entertainment that she's sick of being an actress.

Speaking in Filipino, Aleck, 21, said, "I prefer to work in Japan. But people around me have said I'm crazy not to stick it out in the movies. They think I'm a good actress."

In any case, she believes she deserves the award, her second from Famas, which also gave her the Best Actress trophy in 2004 for her first movie, "Tampisaw."

"Now, I don't care what people say," she declared. "I work hard and I deserve whatever award I get."

Rumors of vote rigging in the Famas derby continue to haunt Aleck, who said it was fortunate that she did not attend the rites last June 26 at the PICC Reception Hall because she was sick.

"Otherwise," she said, "I would be criticized again and I would feel bad again."

She denied that her producer, Angora Films' lawyer Gaudencio Manalo, who produced both "Tampisaw" and "Naglalayag," had bought the Famas awards.

"He is a very decent man," Aleck insisted. "And no, I am not sleeping with him."

Been there

Controversy has continued to haunt the actress, who made news last year when she "escaped" from her manager and boyfriend, Coco Simmo, whom she later sued for estafa and violence against women.

It was not the first time that Aleck experienced abuse from a loved one.

At 14, she worked in Japan and sent money to support her stepmother and her siblings. But she found out later that the money was being mismanaged by her family.

"I don't mind giving them money, but I also want them to work for themselves," she explained, referring to her siblings.

"It's difficult to work in Japan," she confided. "You can't be absent unless you're dying. I had to work even if my jaw and my left eye were swollen and I was nursing a very high fever."

"I'LL STAY in show biz . . . and play it smart."

When she returned to Manila after a year, she hooked up with Simmo, who started to build her up as an actress. She also cut an album, which featured her as a rapper. But her partnership with Simmo ended late last year when Aleck left the condominium unit they had shared. She claimed Simmo had beaten her up and that he had been salting away most of her earnings. She found out that she had to pay P1.4 million in taxes for last year's earnings. But she had no money in the bank.

"Where did the money go?" asked Aleck, who claimed that Simmo took care of her finances.

When she left the condo, she went into hiding for two months, thinking of what to do next. With the help of friends, Aleck was introduced to Sen. Jamby Madrigal, who helped her get legal aid and a new manager.

"Arnold (Vegafria) didn't want to touch me at first," she admitted. "But when he got to know me, he found out that I was not what the media had portrayed me to be."

What she was, Aleck said, was a young woman who did not know better and who made the wrong choices.

"Arnold and I have discussed changing my image," she said. "I don't want to take off my clothes anymore before the cameras. I want to be a legitimate actress."

Aleck may be able to do just that.

Her role in the upcoming ABS-CBN series "Panday" calls for her to be a malevolent being sent to torment the hero, played by Jericho Rosales.

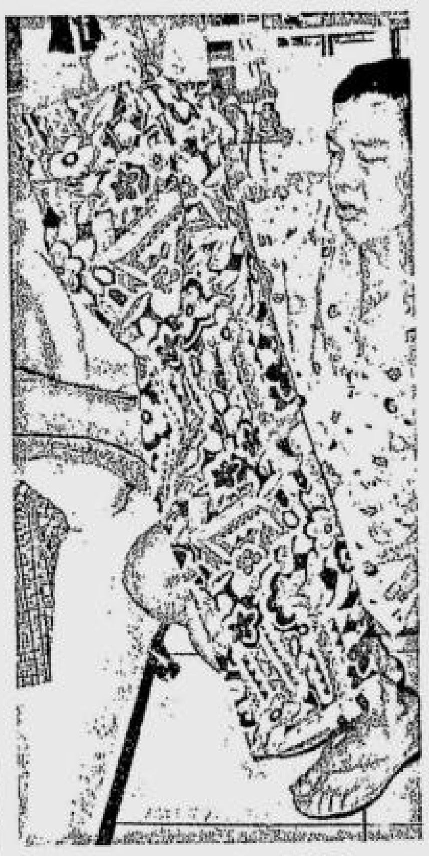
"Maybe, I'll stay in show biz for a while," she mused. "But this time, I'll play it smart."

LEO'S
Start Your Own HOTDOG Business
ALL BEEF Hotdogs, Burgers & Sausages
• Affordable Franchise Opportunity
• No Royalty Fee
• No Advertising Fee
• Best Market Strategy
CALL NOW! 895-4949 / 899-9126

LET'S FACE IT
THE ONE STOP FACIAL SALON
Now Open
Katipunan and Libis
2/F FBR ARCADE KATIPUNAN AVE.
BRGY. LOYOLA HEIGHTS Q.C.
PROMO RUNS UNTIL JULY 15, 2005
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. A3-448 SERIES OF 2005
#68 E. RODRIGUEZ AVENUE
ACROSS EASTWOOD ENTRANCE
TEL.NO.: 634-2223
PROMO RUNS UNTIL JULY 03, 2005
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. A3-320 SERIES OF 2005
20% DISCOUNT
PROMO EXCLUSIVE FOR FBR and LIBIS ONLY
ON SELECTED SERVICES
SM BACOOR / (046) 970-6323 • SM SOUTHMALL / 800-3291 • FESTIVAL MALL / 771-0448 • ALABANG TOWN CENTER / 807-5411 • BF HOMES PARAÑAQUE / 825-3998 • SM BAGUIO (074) 619-7744 • PAVILLION MALL / (049) 411-3758 • PARK SQUARE / 817-8531 • GREENBELT / 893-1715 • SM MANILA / 527-5806 • ROBINSON'S MANILA / 522-9261 SM CITY SUCAT / 826-5532 • ROBINSON'S PLACE LIPA / (043) 757-3589 SM BICUTAN / 777-9282 • SM MEGAMALL / 636-5589 • ROBINSON'S GALLERIA / 687-7710 • STA. LUCIA EAST GRAND MALL / 647-9354 • ROBINSON'S METRO EAST / 646-1721 • TIMOG / 926-7279 • SM CITY PAMPANGA /(045) 961-2150 • SM CITY MARILAO / (044) 913-2173 • SM FAIRVIEW / 935-2875 • SM CITY NORTH EDSA 920-3152 • GRAND CENTRAL / 366-6697 • LH- CIRCLE C / 928-0495 • TUTUBAN / 256-4300 • SM CITY CENTERPOINT / 715-6119 • HARRISON PLAZA / 536-5100 • GREENHILLS / 722-2129 • EVER COMMONWEALTH / 952-7339 • SM CITY LUCENA / (042) 373-4411 • ALI MALL / 995-8996 SM DASMARINAS (046) 412-3094 • MAKATI CINEMA SQUARE / 844-2139 • STA. LUCIA 2nd branch 645-0993 • GREENBELT 1 / 815-1201 • SM CITY BATANGAS/ 885-6357
NOW OPEN: CITY MALL, OLONGAPO TEL.: (047)223-3851, ROBINSONS PIONEER, MANDALUYONG TEL.: 687-6342
SOON TO OPEN: SM SAN LAZARO / SM VALENZUELA / SM MOLINO

MOMENT...
KAREN BAKA GUSTO MO MUNANG MAG-3PM BREAK
NOPE. MAY HIRA-RUSH AKO EH
BOSS
OH NO. NAKATULOG NA SI KAREN
ZZZZZZ
AAH, IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.
AHEM!!!
AM PRAYING WHILE WORKING YOU'RE A NOBLE EXAMPLE MISS KAREN
AMEN!!!
KAREN KAILANGAN MO NG MAG-SOUPY SNAX BREAK!!!
O THANK GOD!!!
'YAN MAHIRAP TALAGA 'PAG DI KA NAG-SOUPY SNAX BREAK!
SOUPY SNAX!
Would you like Soupy Snax in your office? Call our customer hotline at 580-8855
Grab Soupy Snax at your nearest 7-Eleven store today!
MAG MUNA

HE wore these Grecian sandals at last year's Gay Parade White Party.



REMEMBER when the mid-'90s went retro?

VERY detailed Rhett Eala shirt that John uses for pictorials.

The very different John Lapus

By Marinel R. Cruz
Photos by Raffy R. Lerma

COMEDIAN-TV host John Lapus likes being the center of attention. He says this is evident in his outlandish and flamboyant manner of dressing.

"I like being different," John told INQUIRER Entertainment during an interview in his two-story Quezon City home recently. "I hate it when I go to gimmick places like Malate or Makati and meet someone wearing the same shirt. Sometimes *kasi* they carry the outfit better."

OUT OF THE CLOSET

John gamely showed us some of his unique outfits—a pair of vintage pants from San Juan, a hand-painted shirt from Bangkok, a favorite *buri* hat from Cebu.

He brought out numerous pairs of shoes which, he said, "no straight guy would wear."

"I love shoes. What you're seeing now is only one-eighth of the whole collection. I'm kind of Imeldific," said the host of the Saturday show biz talk show "ETK: Entertainment Konek" on ABS-CBN.

SHOES

"I like white shoes. My friends would tease me, calling me Mike Velarde or Tony Ferrer—who also like white shoes. Feeling *ko*, gays wearing white shoes are unusual. Even Kris Aquino says white shoes look good on me. My two favorite pairs are from Florsheim and Esquado. Only problem is, they're kinda hard to shine. Calling the attention of the makers of Kiwi shoe shine! Your polish for white shoes is not as effective as your black shoe polish.

"For formal occasions, I have an Italian leather pair that I bought in Malate. I like it because it's sturdy and pointed. For more casual affairs, I use a pair I got from Carbon.

"I love pointed shoes. I wished for pointed rubber shoes, and one day, I found this pair! *Pang*-girl *nga lang*—high-heeled and pink. I bought this in Canada at a store called Zigi New York. I also have a pair of Adidas rubber shoes from Celio.

"Recently, I bought this aquamarine snakeskin boots that are semi-high cut. Feeling *ko pambakla lang ito*. When I saw this, I screamed. That's what happens when I spot a good pair.

"Actually, I screamed twice that day because I also saw this pair of gold shoes. Gold is in fashion now. When I spotted this, my first question to the salesgirls was, 'Are these for boys?' When she said yes, I felt relieved. That meant the store had my size.

"These two pairs of sandals are from Armani, gifts from PMPC (Philippine Movie Press Club) president Joe Barrameda from a trip to Paris. I have them in fuchsia and neon green. People I meet on the beach can't help but stare.

"I use these Grecian sandals for shows. *Madaya ito*; you'd think I tie them around my legs but they actually have zippers and garters. They're really comfy [and make] my feet look sexy. I first wore them when I hosted the Gay Parade White Party last year."

SHIRTS

"I bought this red 'Boy of Oz' shirt in December 2003, when I spent Christmas in New York with my former manager Biboy Arboleda. We watched movies and plays, which I love doing. Feeling *ko*, of all the Broadway musicals we watched, 'Boy of Oz' was the best. *Naka*-relate *ako*. So I bought the T-shirt right after the show.

"I got this 'If Not Now, When?' shirt from Rustan's U. I'm a member of Rustan's VIP Club, so I get discounts. I like this because the statement has social relevance, especially to the gay community. If not now, when will we start fighting for our rights? If not now, when will find a new boyfriend (laughs)?

"I've been a fan of the brand Springfield ever since it came to Manila. I think it's European. Compared to Kenneth Cole or Calvin Klein, this brand is cheaper but the quality is just as good. I think Springfield is a gay brand, because whenever I go there, *madaming bading*.

"Another favorite brand is Gap. This one with a spider design was a gift from Maricel Soriano. She gave me another with a frog design.

"I did some shopping after my friends and I watched the recent Miss Universe pageant in Thailand. I bought this shirt with Indian prints there. It's hand-painted. Each design is unique. You don't want to meet someone wearing the same thing when you go to a party.

"Lastly, let's go vintage. This is my oldest shirt—a souvenir 'Show Biz Lingo' T-shirt. Imagine that? I've had this since August 1993. I joined 'Show Biz Lingo' that year. When this was given to me, it was too big. My waistline was 22 inches, now I'm a 32.

"These three multicolored polos are from JC Buendia. Note that they come with strips of cloth of the same fabric that I could wear as neckties, bandanas, scarves or headbands. JC is very creative. Imagine what a difference a strip of cloth can make to an outfit.

"Another favorite designer is Rhett Eala. From among the few items that I got from his store, this white long-sleeved polo is my favorite. I just wore this so you could still see the smudges of makeup. I use this during pictorials that require me to wear white. Because it's very detailed, it looks good on pictures."

AFLOO constantly keeps his flamboyant master company.

HAIR, there and everywhere. Friends give him these.

UNIQUE timepieces for a unique person.

BELT with "Superstar" buckle from Diesel

"I'M kinda Imeldific."

PANTS

"Versace is one of my favorites. You seldom get to buy a pair of Versace pants that's perfect for you in a clearance sale. Thank you very much, Linea Italia. This pair was a steal at 80 percent off. I've had this for eight years.

"Mondoroma pants are vintage. These are from the '60s. Remember there was this period in the mid-'90s when retro fashion was a hit? I found these two pairs from a store in San Juan. Surprisingly, they still fit me whether I lose or gain weight.

SUIT

"I love my JC Buendia suit. JC is a good friend. He made this for me last year. I wore it during the 2004 Star Awards for TV ceremony. Ai Ai de las Alas and I were nominated for Best Game Show Hosts for 'Sing-Galing' on ABC 5. To accessorize an otherwise too formal suit, JC made this black-and-white velvet obi sash, which I tied around my hips. We won. This is a lucky charm, I think."

ACCESSORIES

"My favorite belt is from Diesel. It has a cute buckle that says 'Superstar.' Who wouldn't love this?

"My character, Sweet, in 'Ariba Ariba' loved wearing outlandish hats. So when I went to Disneyland in the US and Japan, I bought all the Disney hats I could get my hands on. When the show was axed, I toned down my style. Yes! Magazine organized a celebrity auction at the Rockwell last year. I brought all my used hats. *Ubos*!

"THANK you very much, Linea Italia," for eight-year-old Versace pants.

STRAIGHT to the souvenir shop he ran after watching 'Boy of Oz.'

"I especially like this white hat from French Connection because I can accessorize it with colorful pins and flowers. I also have one of the same style in denim fabric. Recently, I bought this finely woven buri hat in Cebu for only P200. I'm proud of Philippine products.

"I bought this flower pin in Bangkok. This is similar to the rags that merchants sell on the streets; *may* art *lang*. I think it's ingenious. This is very fashionable in Thailand these days.

"This necklace is from Sari-Sari. It is made from buttons tied together. My gay friends love it.

"I like unique accessories, like this bracelet, a gift from a Cebu designer. It's made of wood and carabao horn.

"I'm also into watches. My favorites are those given by Kris and her son Joshua. They're from Shanghai Tang."

"I've been collecting wigs long before I became a TV personality. Now I still use them whenever I have shows. I ask my friends who travel abroad to buy me wigs as *pasalubong*."

She bought the rights and starred in it, too

FIRST PERSON

JENNIFER Love Hewitt stars in "If Only" as Samantha, an American music student living in London—carefree, impulsive and madly in love with her English boyfriend, Ian (Paul Nicholls) is wedded to his high-pressure, high-finance job, too busy to see that by ignoring his emotions and neglecting his adoring girlfriend, he runs the risk of losing her altogether. The situation takes a tragic turn, and Ian at last realizes Sam's true worth in his life.

"When I read the script it changed my life. I really took it to heart. I think that sometimes in life things are brought to you for a reason and that's what the movie is about. It was at a time in my life when I really needed to stop for a second and go, 'God, all this other stuff is great, but how lucky am I just for this one simple thing which is that I get to be alive every day?'

JENNIFER Love Hewitt says reading the script of "If Only" changed her life.

"I auditioned for the role when the script was owned by a previous studio but I was considered too young for the part. I wasn't big enough to star in a movie, besides; I hadn't been in very many movies before. They also said, 'We can't make a love story for people in their twenties like this one because people in their twenties don't fall in love this way.' [That] is so wrong!

"I followed 'If Only' for years as the project moved from studio to studio. In the intervening years, I formed my own production company, Love Spell Entertainment, with producer Jill Gilbert. About two years ago, I woke up in the middle of the night and wondered, 'What happened to that movie?' I called that very day, and that very day it went up for sale. I jumped into it with Jeffrey Silver and Robert Newmyer of Outlaw Productions.

"Sam embodies what the entire movie is about—a certain life that you have to have and how important that is. Sam is absolutely full of life, always jumping around or making a joke, seeing the brighter side of something. She's a hopeless romantic and completely believes that she and Ian will be together forever and ever and ever. To me that's really special."

Dustin in bestseller's film version

MUNICH, Germany—Shooting of "Perfume: The Story of A Murderer" begins in Germany next week, with Dustin Hoffman starring in the screen version of the best-known German novel of the 20th century.

Hoffman said Tuesday he was approached by his friend, director Tom Tykwer—best known for his 1998 film "Run Lola Run"—and immediately agreed to the part of the perfumer, Baldini. The actor said he had read Patrick Suskind's book shortly after it came out some 20 years ago.

"At that time, it was one of the books that you had to have read," Hoffman said.

The film is being shot entirely in English in a Munich studio. It is scheduled to appear in cinemas in autumn 2006.

German producer Bernd Eichinger said he tried for years to get the film rights to the story of Jean-Baptise Grenouille, who experiences life in 18th-century Paris entirely through smells.

Hoffman said he liked the idea that humans "have more senses than we realize," noting that his favorite smell is that of small babies.

"I'm fascinated how babies' heads and necks always smell the same," Hoffman said. *AP*

How much television should children be exposed to?

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

To get their kids out of their hair, parents use TV as an electronic nanny or pacifier

SHOULD parents allow their children to watch television in their bedrooms? Some child psychologists recently weighed in on this issue on NBC's "Today" show, and shared these observations:

The trend of children having their own TV sets is definitely on the rise in the United States, where 32 percent of kids aged 2 to 7 watch television in their bedrooms. For youngsters, aged 8 to 18, the percentage is double—65 percent!

Is this a positive development? Expectedly not. A study of third graders concludes that kids with their own TV sets watch more television, experience difficulty in sleeping, and get lower grades than children who watch TV under the careful supervision of their parents.

On the other hand, the study also tested its young subjects on the effects of home computers, and found that children with computers scored higher grades.

For their part, parents who allow their kids to watch TV in their rooms shared that they lost control of and supervision over their children's televiewing choices. But they confessed to caving in under their kids' constant barrage of pleas to get TV sets of their own.

To get their kids out of their hair, parents use TV as an electronic nanny or pacifier so they can get some breathing space.

But some child psychologists warn that this parental cop-out often has a soporific effect on children, and opens their kids up to shows that are too adult for their unformed psyches to adequately handle.

So, the word's out: With young children, at least, parents need to supervise what they view, even going to the extent of selecting the tapes or discs they deem age-appropriate for their kids.

In addition, psychologists urge parents of kids less than 2 years old to keep them away from TV completely. For older kids, an hour or two a day in front of the TV set is deemed to be enough.

Finally, on the "electronic nanny" syndrome, psychologists advise parents to introduce their children to alternative activities, like imaginative play, board games and physical exertion through sports, dancing, etc.

Viewing treats on Hallmark

The Hallmark Channel screens these engaging movies on its 9 p.m. "Moule Premieres" programming slot this month:

Eight-year-old "Valentin" (July 24), has to contend with a philandering father, an absentee mother and a bitter grandparent. But this does not stop him from finding amusement and wonder in life.

Trying to solve his dysfunctional family's problems while pursuing his own dream to become an astronaut may not be easy, but Valentin eventually discovers that he does not need to venture into space to find the love and affection he craves.

Meanwhile, in the vast underground construct called Bogeydom live the blissfully disgusting Bogeys, who spend their days wallowing in all things vile, and their nights to scare the hell out of humans.

But things take an unexpected turn when "Fungus the Bogeyman" (July 30) son, Mould, develops an unlikely friendship that could become the biggest threat to the Bogeys' wonderfully filthy existence.

Finally, in "Category 6: Day of Destruction" (July 31), the coming of a superstorm of unprecedented destructive power has caught the US in a stranglehold. The inevitable repercussions, including the worst power breakdown on record, could cripple the nation.

Anchorwoman Amy Harking (**Nancy McKeon**) suspects that the danger is originating from a dominant power supplier, while forecaster Andy Goodman (**Brian Dennehy**) and a storm chaser (**Randy Quaid**) are putting their own spins on the impending disaster.

As black clouds blanket the country and the power overload sets off chain reaction, the flight becomes man against nature—and men against each other!

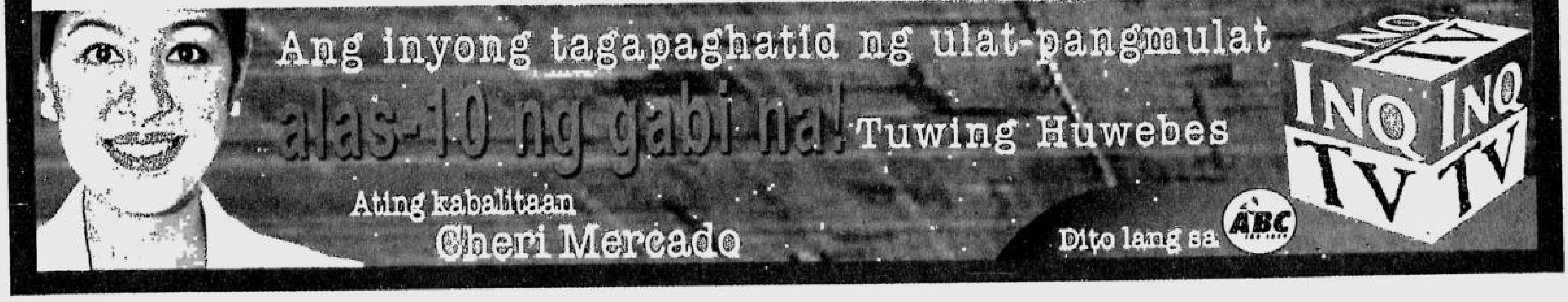
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
TV GUIDE
Monday, July 11, 2005

HOLLYWOOD DREAM
Hosted by Eric Quizon

THE DREAM BEGINS JULY 17! The much-talked - about reality show "Hollywood Dream" will finally begin! Find out who will get a chance to fly to New York and Los Angeles, meet Hollywood producers and casting directors, get a Screen Actors Guild card, appear on "As the World Turns" and land a role in 2 movies being produced in Hollywood!
SUNDAY 9:00 PM
ABC the 5
ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
NBN	Environmental Documentary	Value Vision			Teledyaryo	Value Vision	Next Stop			Family Rosary Crusade		Teledyaryo		Network Forum		Dial M			
ABS-CBN 2	Kapamilya Cinema				Pasion de Amor	Mr. Bean	Naruto	Opids	Meteor Garden Season 2	TV Patrol World	Mga Anghel Na Walang Langit	Ikaw Ang Lahat Sa Akin	Kampanerang Kuba	Green Rose	Oh! Feel Young	OK Fine! Whatever			Insider
ABC 5					Batas Barangay		TNA Impact		Sentro	Friends	The Apprentice		Fear Factor		Big News	Look Who's Talking		ESPN Golf	
GMA 7	Saang Sulok Ng Langit	Now and Forever	Glass Shoes	Tenjho Tenge	Shaman King	Flame Of Recca	Full House	24 Oras		Darna	Encantadia	Sugo		Attic Cat	Extra Challenge	Lagot Ka, Isusumbong Kita			Saksi
RPN 9		Metro TV Shopping	Defenders Of The Earth	Hey Arnold!	As Told By Ginger	Wild Thornberries	Sponge Bob	The Insider	NBA On RPN					Biggest Loser		Newswatch Now	Sex & the City	Cerge For Truth	
IBC 13		EZ Shop		EZ Shop		Home Shopping Network	IBC Express Balita	Krusada Kontra Krimen		Shakey's V-League				Japan 9-Ball			IBC News Tonite	Linawin Natin	
SBN 21		Morph TV		Oras Ng Himala		SBN Sing Along		Powerline	Gospel Of The Kingdom			Give Us This Day		Behold		The Kingdom Of Jesus Christ		Evening Devotions	
Studio 23						Super Gals		Get Backers	Beyblade	Wazzup Wazzup	America's Next Top Model	Tru Calling		Charmed		News Central	The Next Joe Millionaire		Travel Time
MTV Philippines			Hangin Out at MTV		MTV Get Spotted		TRL		Ask: Rob Thomas	MTV Dives		D-tour	Taldaters	PunkD	Rich Girls	On Board at MTV	Brand New	VH1 Video Collection	
MYX	Star MYX	Urban MYX	Rock MYX	OPM MYX	My MYX	Take 5	MYX Backtrax	MYX Firsts	Mellow MYX	Pop MYX	Urban MYX	MYX Daily Top Ten		OPM MYX Countdown		My MYX	OPM MYX	MYX Backtrax	Mellow MYX
CNN		Business International		Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	Business International		World News	World Sport	World News Asia		World News	Living Golf	World News Asia		Your World Today	
Solar Sports		ATP World Team C'ship '05 Finals							NBA Jam Local	Sagupaan		Fight	Sports Desk	Women's Volleyball '04				NBA TV Daily	NBA Inside Stuff
Sports Plus											Tour De France					Tour De France	John Deere Classic Final		
Cinemax	Framed (2:45 PM)				Look Who's Talking			The Perfect Husband			Prehystorial 2			Maverick				New Jack City (11:05PM)	
Hallmark Channel	Who's The Boss	Wife Swap		HCA: The Fairytaler	Sesame Street		Mad About You	Who's The Boss	The Nanny	Sue Thomas: F.B Eye		Wife Swap					Regenesis (10:35PM)		Sue Thomas: F.B Eye
Disney Channel	Mr. Bean: The Animated Series	Totally Spies	Art Attack/Untalkative Bunny	So Little Time	Buzz Lightyear Of Star Command	Martin Mystery	Totally Spies	Kim Possible	Mr. Bean: The Animated Series	House Of Mouse	Pixel Perfect			So Little Time	Sabrina, The Animated Series	Mickey Mouse and Friends	Chip N Dale's Rescue Rangers	Land Before Time IV: Journey Through The Mists	
Discovery Channel		Body Work		Mummy Autopsy		Lion Battlefield		Wild Weather		Unsolved History				Wild Discovery		Concorde: Anatomy Of Disaster		Rameses: Wrath Of God Or Man?	
National Geographic		Built For The Kill		Animals Like Us		Be The Creature		Wildlife Detectives	Insects From Hell	Wow		About Asia		Nat'l Geographic Specials		Built For The Kill		Animals Like Us	
Cartoon Network	Scooby-Doo Show	The All New Popeye Show		Tom & Jerry Show	The Woody Woodpecker Show	X-Men Evolution	Static Shock	What's New Scooby Doo?	Atomic Betty	Zoids Fusers	Medabots	The Looney Tunes Show		The Powerpuff Girls	Dexter's Laboratory	Time Squad	Thundercats	What's New Scooby Doo?	Atomic Betty
Nickelodeon	Blues Clues	Rugrats	The Fairly Odd Parents	SpongeBob SquarePants	All That	Are You Afraid of the Dark?	100 Deeds of Eddie McDowd	The Amanda Show	The Adventures Jimmy Neutron	Fairly Odd Parents	SpongeBob SquarePants	As Told By Ginger	Yakkity Yak	Chalkzone	Rocket Power	Hey Arnold!	The Wild Thornberrys	The Angry Beavers	Rugrats
Lifestyle Network	Country Style	Interiors By Design	Decorating With Style	Decorating Cents	Molto Mario	Sweet Dreams	30 Minute Meals	Bill Boggs Corner	Unwrapped	Food 911	Area		NY Fashion Week	Life & Style		Life Is Great With Brooke Burke		Breathing Room	Genuine Article
Star World	Weird TV	The Bold & The Beautiful		Hollywood Squares	Home Improvement	Buffy The Vampire Slayer		The Simpsons	The Drew Carey Show	Star News Asia	Friends	The King Of Queens	Still Standing	Yes Dear	Frasier	Boston Public		Friends	The King Of Queens
AXN		Lost		Worst Case Scenario		30 Seconds To Fame	E Buzz*	The Associates (Season II)		Alias (Season III)		Record Setters		Fear Factor (Season V)		CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami	
JackTV	Street Smarts	Worst Case Scenario		Wire Heat		WWE Velocity		Cheat	Just For Laughs	Mad TV		Kid Notorious	Comedy Central Presents	Insomniac W/ Dave Attell	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	Blue Collar TV	Banzai	Joe Schmo Show	
ETC		Complete Savages	Knock First	Blind Date	Fifth Wheel	Elimidate	Change of Heart	Seinfeld	Ambush Makeover	Friends	Will & Grace	The O.C.		Queer eye For The Straight Guy		ET Weekend		Who Wants To Marry My Dad	
HBO				Blankman (3.50 PM)			The Devil's Own (5:25 PM)			Blue Thunder (7:15 PM)				How To Lose A Guy In 10 Days				The Wisher (10:55PM)	
Star Movies			Bulworth (3.20 PM)			Sister Act (5.10 PM)				The Preacher's Wife (6.55 PM)				Agent Cody Banks			Evel Knievel (10:45PM)		
Cinema One		Tugtuging Bukid				Kung Tayo'y Magkakalayo				Banyo Queen				Mano Po 2				Cool Dudes	
EWTN	St. Matthew	Angelus (3.15 PM)	Benediction And Devotion	Story Keepers	Image Of God	The Holy Rosary With Mother Angelica and the Nuns Of Our Lady Of Angels Monastery	Light Of The East II	Voices On Virtue	EWTN Gallery	Threshold Of Hope Encore		Sunday Night Live With Fr. Groeschel		Daily Mass		Angelus (10.15PM)	G.K. Chesterton	Catholic Compass	

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.


Ang inyong tagapaghatid ng ulat-pangmulat
alas-10 ng gabi na! Tuwing Huwebes
Ating kabalitaan
Cheri Mercado
Dito lang sa ABC
INQ INQ TV TV

She said... what?

RUFA MAE: Oops JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

By Marinel R. Cruz

RUFA Mae Quinto has been reprimanded by GMA 7 for uttering a "vulgar word" on the Sunday noontime variety show "SOP."

The actress-host was issued a memorandum dated July 4 reminding her to be "circumspect in her speech and choice of words." The memo was signed by Corazon de Jesus, assistant vice president for Talk, Variety and Musicals.

In an exchange with a co-host on the show's June 12 episode, the memo said, Rufa Mae described short shorts as "pekpek" shorts.

"As you are probably aware, that word is the Tagalog street slang for the . . . vulva," wrote De Jesus. "While it is clearly shown in the video footage that the utterance was more accidental than deliberate, Management is still not pleased with the incident."

The reprimand was prompted by a complaint from Movie and Television Review and Classification Board Chair Marissa Laguardia. "Too vulgar," the Censors chief said of the utterance.

"TV hosts should be more responsible," Laguardia told INQUIRER Entertainment on Friday in an interview at her Quezon City office. "They should think before they speak. Children are watching."

In a letter to Laguardia, GMA 7 Special Projects Section head Jose Vener Ibarra said De Jesus had called an emergency meeting of "SOP" personnel "to remind all to be careful in their use of words and situations that might be offensive to the viewing public."

Ibarra said he and De Jesus likewise met with Rufa Mae on July 10 "to explain to her the seriousness of the incident."

ABS-CBN, too

In another development, Laguardia issued a "stern warning" to ABS-CBN for airing scenes that were "too violent" on the July 5 episode of the drama series "Mga Anghel Na Walang Langit."

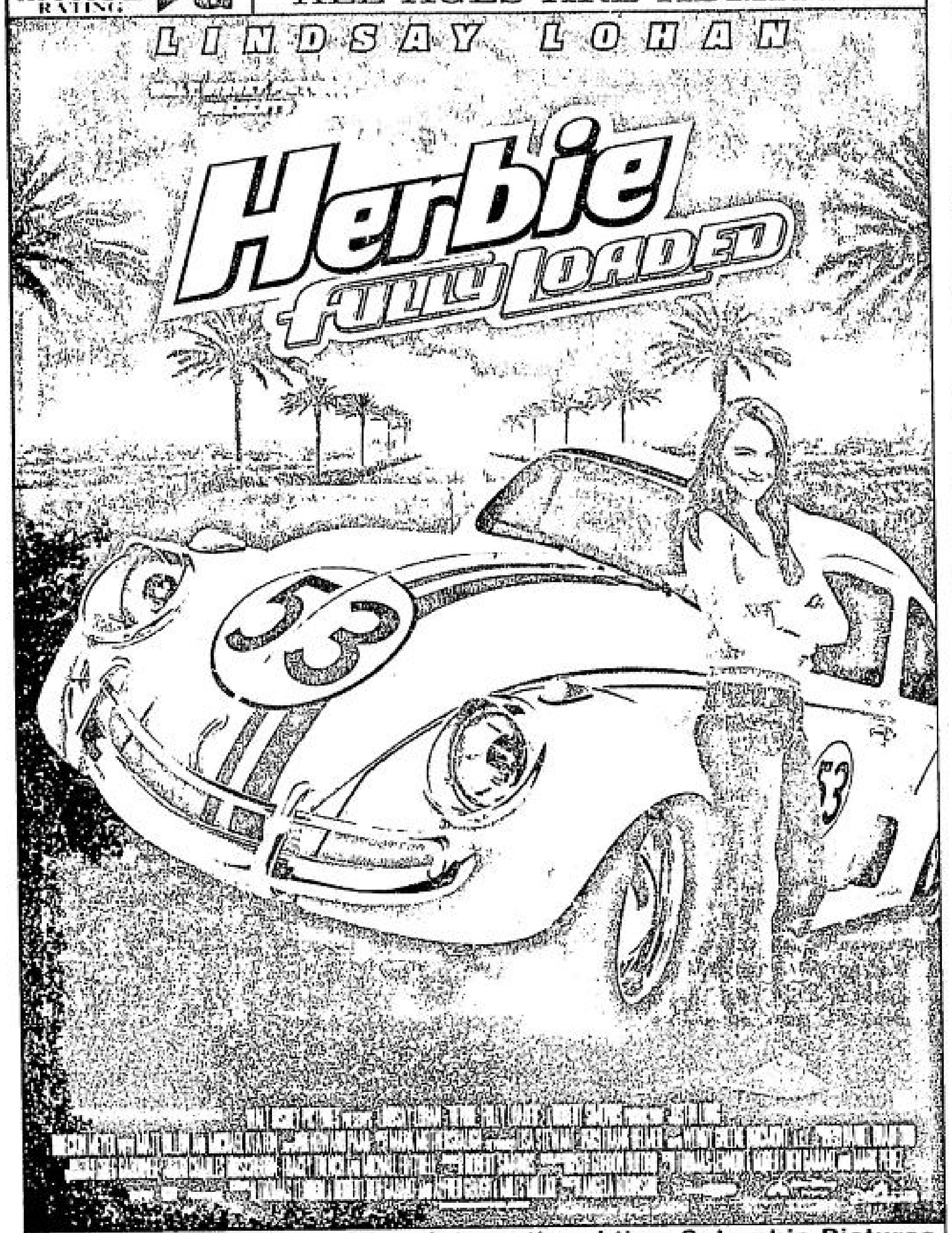
"[The program] contained scenes showing children being physically/cruelly abused or beaten by their guardian . . . objectionable and not fit for airing," Laguardia said in a memo addressed to Socorro Vidanes, vice president for Programs.

The MTRCB chair said actress Sylvia Sanchez was shown hitting one of the children in the drama series. She added that this violated the MTRCB's Parental Guidance classification for TV.

"[Such scenes] could have a psychological effect on children, and probably on their parents as well," Laguardia said.

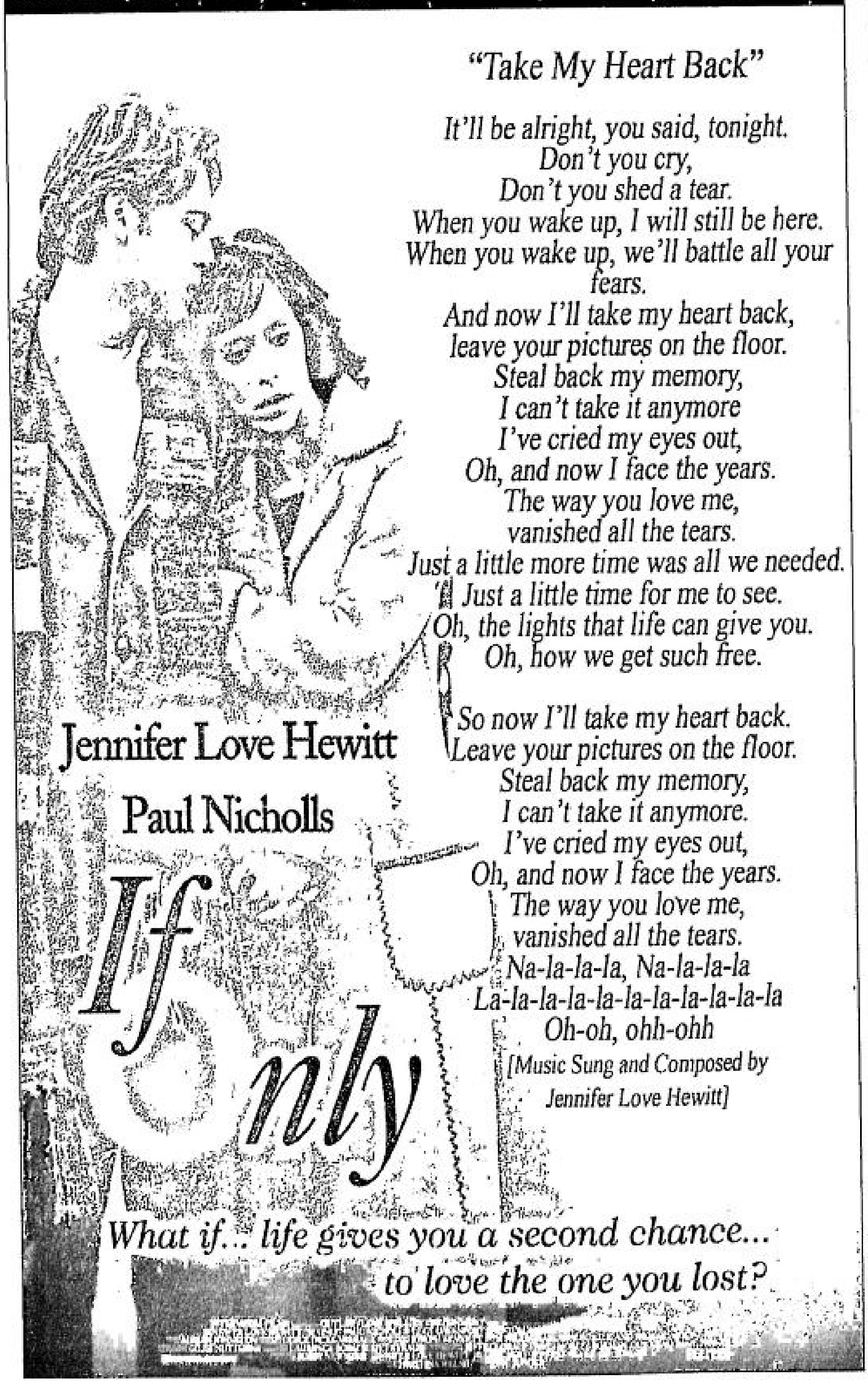
"Mga Anghel Na Walang Langit" stars child actors Nikki Bagaporo, Carl John Barrameda, John Mando, Miles Ocampo and Sharleen San Pedro.

REV UP FOR A FAMILY ADVENTURE WITH HERBIE
OPENS JULY 13!
MTRCB RATING ▶ G | ALL AGES ARE ADMITTED



Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

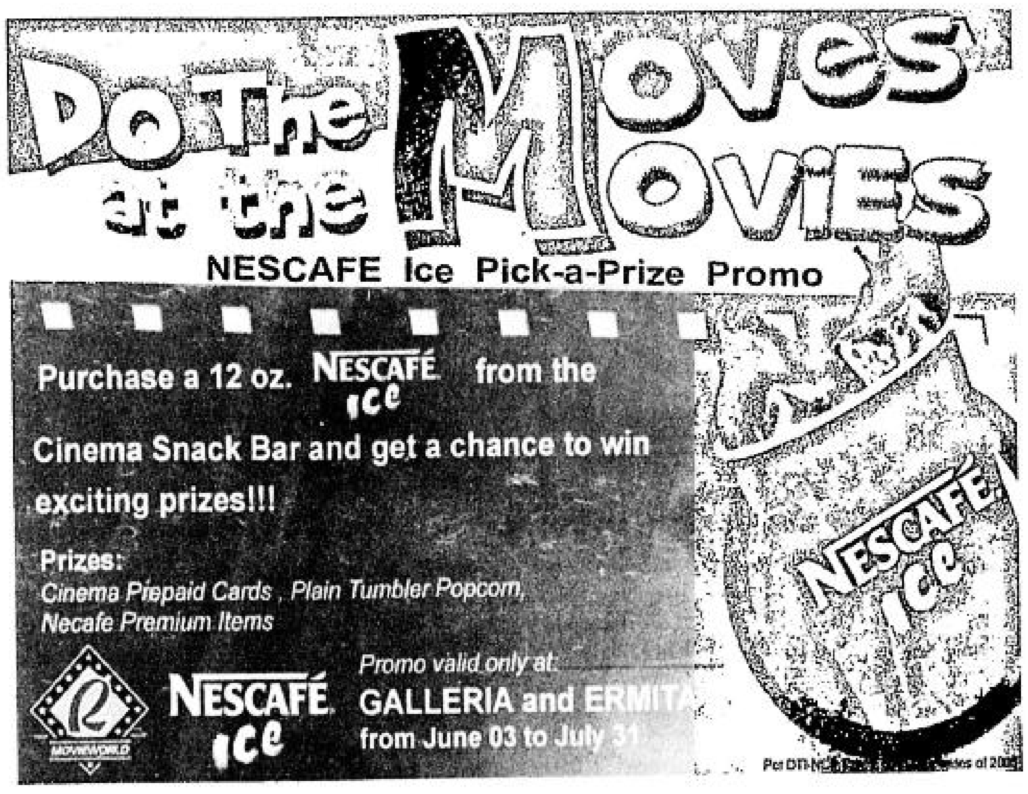
OPENS JULY 13
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
GRAB YOUR HANKIES, GIVE YOURSELF A GOOD CRY


Jennifer Love Hewitt
Paul Nicholls
If Only
What if... life gives you a second chance... to love the one you lost?

"Take My Heart Back"

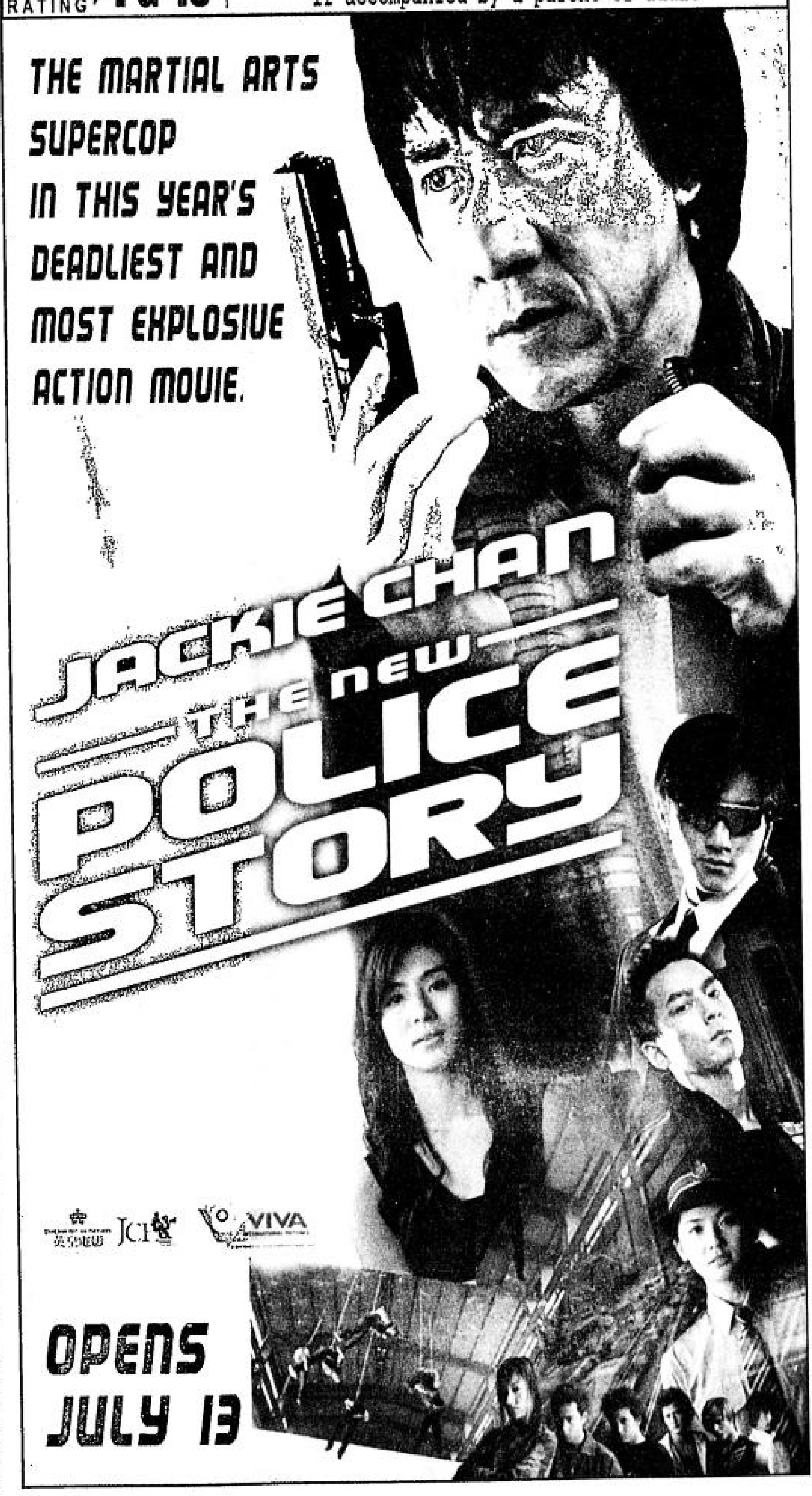
It'll be alright, you said, tonight.
Don't you cry,
Don't you shed a tear.
When you wake up, I will still be here.
When you wake up, we'll battle all your fears.
And now I'll take my heart back,
leave your pictures on the floor.
Steal back my memory,
I can't take it anymore
I've cried my eyes out,
Oh, and now I face the years.
The way you love me,
vanished all the tears.
Just a little more time was all we needed.
Just a little time for me to see.
Oh, the lights that life can give you.
Oh, how we get such free.

So now I'll take my heart back.
Leave your pictures on the floor.
Steal back my memory,
I can't take it anymore.
I've cried my eyes out,
Oh, and now I face the years.
The way you love me,
vanished all the tears.
Na-la-la-la, Na-la-la-la
La-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la
Oh-oh, ohh-ohh
[Music Sung and Composed by
Jennifer Love Hewitt]


Do The Moves at the Movies
NESCAFÉ Ice
MOVIEWORLD

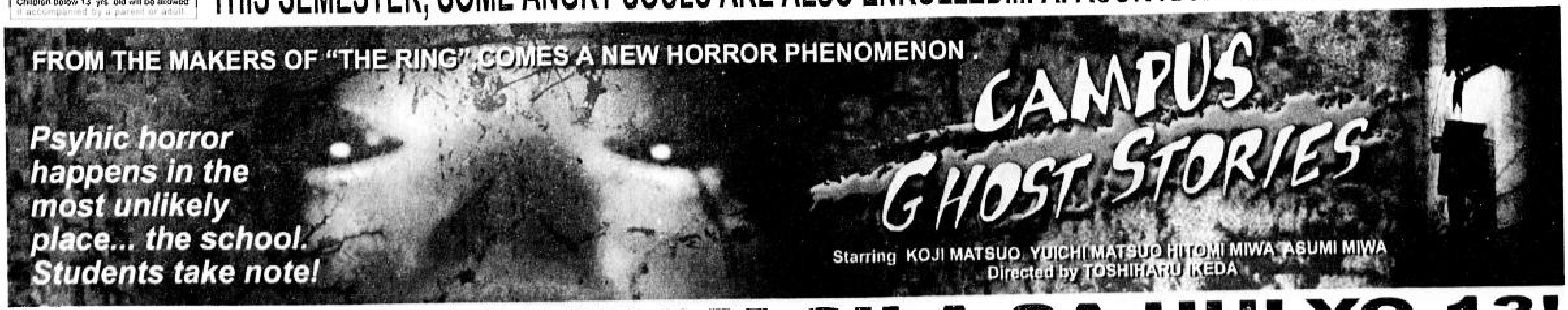
NESCAFE Ice Pick-a-Prize Promo
Purchase a 12 oz. NESCAFÉ Ice from the Cinema Snack Bar and get a chance to win exciting prizes!!!
Prizes:
Cinema Prepaid Cards , Plain Tumbler Popcorn, Necafe Premium Items
Promo valid only at:
GALLERIA and ERMITA
from June 03 to July 31

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult



THE MARTIAL ARTS SUPERCOP IN THIS YEAR'S DEADLIEST AND MOST EXPLOSIVE ACTION MOVIE.
OPENS JULY 13

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
THIS SEMESTER, SOME ANGRY SOULS ARE ALSO ENROLLED...PAPASOK KA BA SA HAUNTED SCHOOL?



FROM THE MAKERS OF "THE RING", COMES A NEW HORROR PHENOMENON .
Psyhic horror happens in the most unlikely place... the school. Students take note!
Starring KOJI MATSUO YUICHI MATSUO HITOMI MIWA ASUMI MIWA
Directed by TOSHIHARU IKEDA
MAGPAPARAMDAM SILA SA HULYO 13!

HP Scanjet 4670vp Scanner hp invent
Designed to scan almost anything with impressive results
CALL NOW FOR MORE INFO.
INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC.
Tel. (632) 727-3801 • www.ics.com.ph

MONDAY, JULY 11, 2005
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BUSINESS
E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inq7money.net
Editor **Raul O. Marcelo**
Assistant Editor **Corrie S. Narisma**
Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

AUDIOVISUAL • COMPUTER
RENTALS
Call: RENTAL DIVISION
THE BRAIN
Your One Stop Audiovisual Shop
CONVENTION • SEMINAR • TRAINING • MEETINGS • CORPORATE EVENT • CONCERT • PARTIES • SPECIAL OCCASION • TRADE SHOW • EXHIBIT
☎721-2466 • 722-8843 • 722-8845 • 727-9803

'Hot money' inflow shrinks on GMA woes

By Doris C. Dumlao

POLITICAL jitters arising from President Macapagal-Arroyo's involvement in an election-rigging scandal curbed net inflow of foreign portfolio funds or "hot money" to the Philippines to a 10-month low in June after a powerful surge early this year.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas reported that net portfolio investment inflow hit $31 million in June, or 43 percent lower than the $54.2 million recorded a year ago.

It was the first time this year that monthly inflow of hot money was dwarfed by the windfall in the comparable period last year, when foreign investment flows likewise tumbled due to the uncertainties over the presidential elections.

The inflow posted in June also represented the weakest monthly record since August last year, when there was even a net outflow of $1.8 million.

But BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. noted that for the week ending July 1, there was an overall net inflow of $87.1 million.

"Foreign investors have remained confident about the country's economic prospects,". Tetangco said in a press statement.

"This is the highest weekly net inflow since the week ending April 8 when a net outflow of $135.4 million was recorded," he noted.

A net inflow results when the total amount of registered foreign portfolio investments, called "hot money" due to their volatile nature, exceeds the aggregate amount of capital repatriation or outflows.

The BSP's latest data on portfolio investments have yet to factor in the adverse impact of the July 1 Supreme Court order to freeze the implementation of the value-added tax law.

For the six month period ending July 1 this year, total inflow from portfolio investments reached $1.94 billion or almost 13 times better than the $150 million in the same period last year.

Bulk of the inflow in the first semester came in from January to April, supporting the sharp appreciation of the peso against the US dollar at that time. The net inflow hit $543.5 million in January, $334.7 million in February, $562.1 million in March and $279.8 million in April.

The inflow was fueled by renewed investor interest in local stocks, in turn boosted by initial public offerings by big companies such as retail tycoon Henry Sy's SM Investment Corp. and the Ayalas' Manila Water Co.

Prior to the political turbulence that led to the resignation of key government economic managers, the BSP was expecting the strong portfolio investments in the first four months of the year to be sustained for the rest of 2005.

By May, the portfolio inflow to the country had dwindled to $98.7 million.

But Tetangco noted that the cumulative inflows in the first semester still stood about four times better than the $486.8 million total for the whole of 2004.

"The generally favorable outlook on the economy, driven mainly by the progress in the government's fiscal consolidation program and strong profit prospects for certain firms, has strengthened foreign investor

HOT/ B2

Power sector gets $950-M funding from ADB

By Michelle V. Remo

THE ASIAN Development Bank has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Philippine government on a $950-million financial assistance to the country's power sector, not minding the political turmoil that could dampen stability on the local fiscal front.

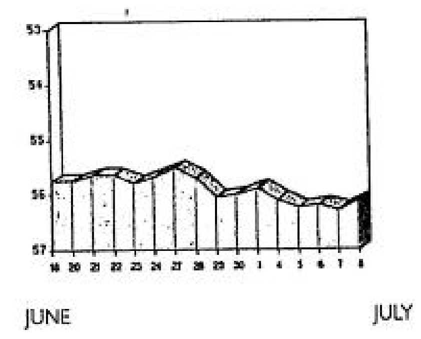
The MOU was signed last week, while the formal deal and full details of the assistance are expected to be signed and established in the coming weeks.

Finance Secretary-designate Roberto

POWER/ B6

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

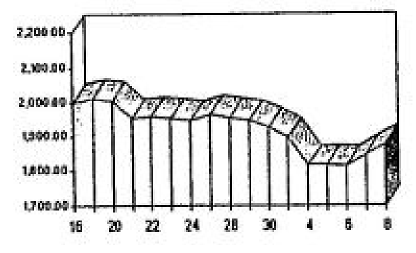
₱ 56.100 = $ 1
As of 5 p.m., July 8, 2005

¥ 111.64= $ 1
As of 5 p.m., July 6, 2005

GOLD: $424.10-424.60
per ounce Hong Kong, July 8, 2005

STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B4)

Cautious trading seen as political worries remain

INVESTORS are likely to stay cautious this week with no clear signs of how the political showdown between President Macapagal Arroyo and various sectors calling for her ouster will turn out.

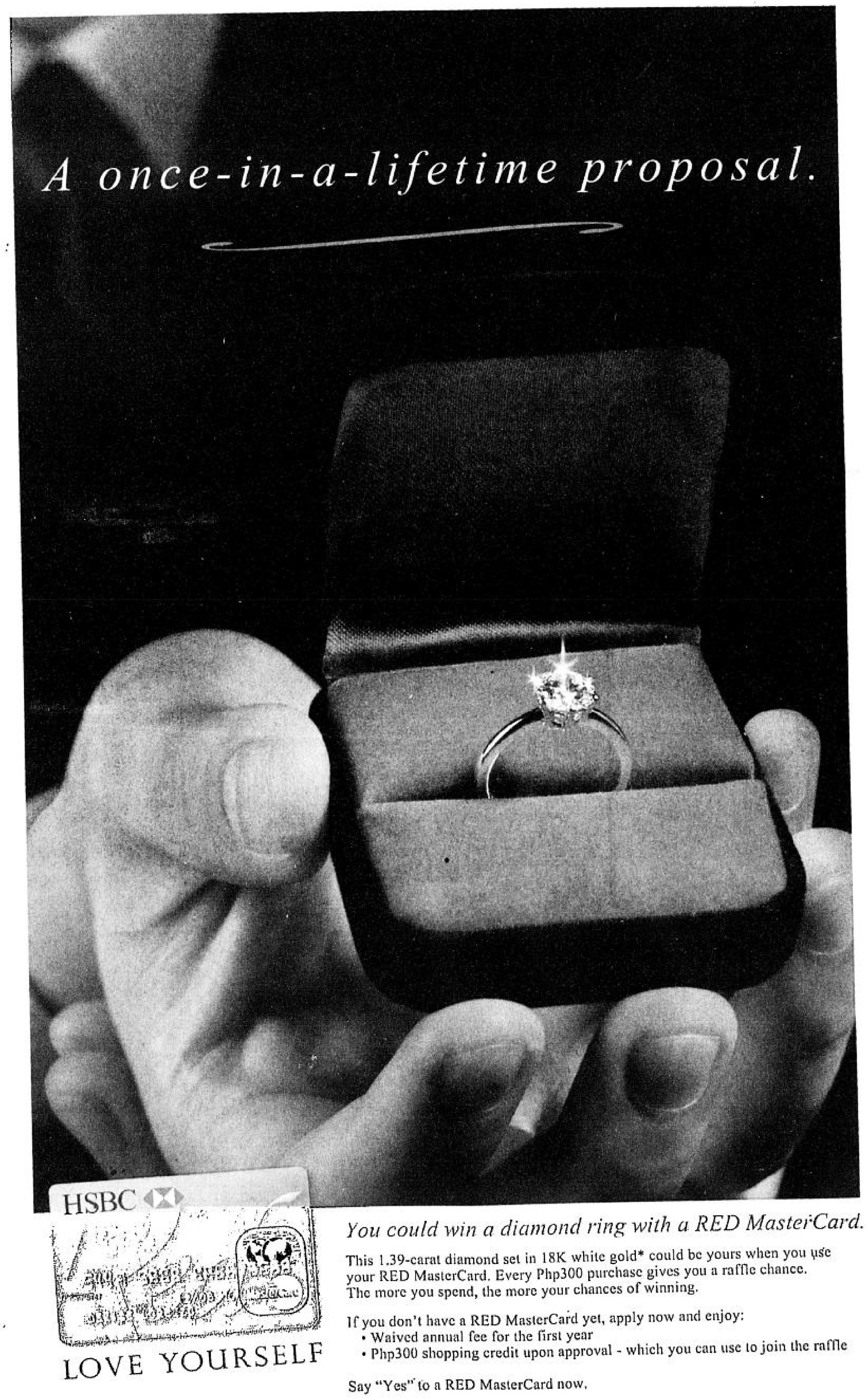
The bloodletting in the market last week was stemmed as investors picked up stocks on Friday, placing their bets on Lopez-owned shares on speculation that Vice President Noli De Castro, who used to work with ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp., looms large as the likely successor to Ms Arroyo. For the week, the benchmark index fell 18.97 points or 1 percent to 1876.28.

"Everyone is factoring in a smooth political transition for a constitutionally sanctioned successor to President Arroyo," Grace Cerdenia, head of research at online broker 2Trade Asia.com said.

By Friday afternoon, Philippine business leaders joined the chorus of calls for the President to make the ultimate personal sacrifice and step down.

"If GMA does resign, I think there will be

CAUTIOUS/ B4



LOVE YOURSELF

You could win a diamond ring with a RED MasterCard.

This 1.39-carat diamond set in 18K white gold* could be yours when you use your RED MasterCard. Every Php300 purchase gives you a raffle chance. The more you spend, the more your chances of winning.

If you don't have a RED MasterCard yet, apply now and enjoy:
- Waived annual fee for the first year
- Php300 shopping credit upon approval - which you can use to join the raffle

Say "Yes" to a RED MasterCard now.

▶ For more details, call 952-5090.

Terms and conditions apply. See flyers for details. Promo is until 30 November 2005.

HSBC
The world's local bank

Issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

* Certified by the Gemological Institute of America (GIA)

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4021 Series of 2005

'Hot money' inflow shrinks . . .

From page B1

confidence since the start of the year," Tetangco said.

Meantime, the local banking system remained cautious in giving out foreign currency deposit unit (FCDU) loans due to the foreign exchange volatility seen since the Asian currency turmoil in 1997.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas reported that as of end-March 2005, outstanding loans granted by FCDUs of banks stood at $4.61 billion or about 2 percent higher than the end-2004 level of $4.53 billion.

The outstanding FCDU loans, however, were a bit lower than the $4.66 billion posted in the same period last year amid the uncertainties ahead of the presidential elections at that time.

But Tetangco noted that the 2 percent quarter-on-quarter growth in FCDU loans posted at end-March paralleled a similar 2 percent expansion in peso loans during the same period, indicating positive business sentiment.

FCDU loan disbursements during the quarter reached $1.22 billion or $210 million higher than the previous quarter's level, while smaller loan repayments were recorded, resulting in a net disbursement of $109 million.

"In terms of borrower profile, public utility firms accounted for 22 percent of the loan portfolio, followed by commodity/service exporters with a 20 percent share," Tetangco said.

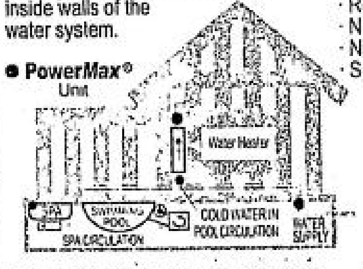
"On a sectoral basis, loans to the private sector represented 64 percent of outstanding FCDU credits," he said.

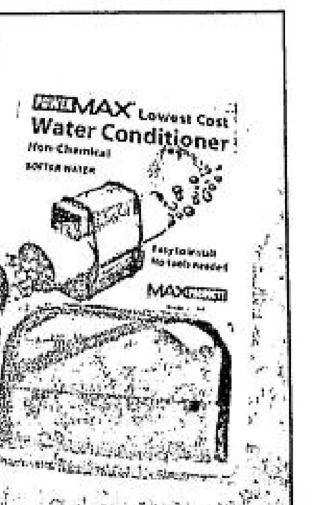
We'll fix it FAST!
Fax Machines • Computers • Monitors • Printers (Laser, Deskjet, Dot Matrix) • Key Telephone Systems • Bundy Clock • Answering Machines • Paper Shredders • UPS-AVRs • Typewriters and other office equipments
Panasonic EPSON SHARP OKI XEROX SANYO brother muratec Canon
CITIWORLD
GUARANTEED 60 MINS. SERVICES RESPONSE
Main Office: Lower Ground, David 1 Building, 567 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos.: 725-7031 / 724-5823 / 723-4894
Makati Office: 3A, Trans-Phil House 1177 Chino Roces Ave., Corner Bagtikan St., Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 895-1435 / 896-6032

AS LOW AS ₱300 FREE ESTIMATE
FAX REPAIR
Panasonic NEC SAMSUNG SANYO MAVIS SHARP OKI NISSEI Canon OTHERS
ALSO REPAIR COMPUTERS, PRINTERS, MONITORS, TYPEWRITERS, TV, AUDIO VIDEO, AND OTHER OFFICE EQUIPMENTS.
KCS KINGS
CUT THIS AD AND AVAIL OF A 15% DISCOUNT
894-2309
843-6630
843-6662
QUEZON CITY
374-7963
411-6380

KING JAMES AUCTION
Suite 903 Annapolis Wilshire Plaza, No. 11 Annapolis Street, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
NEGOTIATED SALES
8,500 TONS OF SCRAP METAL
(QUEZON CITY)
CONSISTING OF 43,000 SQ.M OF STEEL, TRUSSES, & BUILDINGS, GENSETS, CONVEYORS, HEATING FURNACE, INDUCTION MOTORS, COMPRESSORS, PIPES, CERAMIC MOULDS, I-BEAMS, STEEL BARS WINDOWS, DOORS, STEEL CHANELS, G.I. SHEETS, DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMER.
MINIMUM BID ₱70 MILLION
PRE-BIDDING CONFERENCE: JULY 14, 2005
LAST DAY SUBMISSION OF BID: JULY 15, 2005 - 3:00 P.M.
KING JAMES reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bid proposals whenever the interests of King James Auction so demand.
INFO: 721-3233; 723-3277; (0919) 643-8362

AMAZING 4000 LAMP HOURS!
The X2 Double Deal Double Thrill
July 14 - 20, 2005, Atrium, Upper Ground
SM Megamall Bldg. B.
SRP Php 67,000.
NOW Php 57,000.* only!
We're back by popular demand!
InFocus X2, our high-selling multi-use projector is on sale from July 14-20 at the InFocus X2 Exhibit located at The Atrium, Upper Ground, SM Megamall Bldg. B.
*Get P10,000 outright discount PLUS FREE DVD PLAYER for every purchase of an InFocus X2 when you buy within the promo period.
This is a double deal where you win 2X! So, don't dare miss it this time!
* Add P2,000 for 2nd year warranty.
FREE DVD PLAYER
InFocus X2
• 7th Generation DLP™ Technology
• 1600 ANSI Lumens
• 2000:1 contrast ratio
• 4000 Lamp Hours
Call us at 7230601 or email inquire@ati.com.ph for more details.
InFocus®
The Big Picture™
Exclusive Distributor and Service Provider:
better solutions
AMERICAN TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
url: www.ati.com.ph e-mail: inquire@ati.com.ph
Fax: 723-7951
Per DTI Permit # A3-547, Series of 2005.
InFocus and X2 are registered trademarks of InFocus Corporation. DLP™ is a trademark of Texas Instruments.





Condition Your Home Water System
PowerMax has the ability to control scale and parafin in fluid. It conditions and treats water so that it will be more effective with chemicals. PowerMax can prevent additional build-up in your home water supply system. Once attached to cold and hot water pipes, nothing will cling or attach to the inside walls of the water system.
· Prevention of scale build-up
· Progressive removal of existing scale build-up
· Improved water flow
· Increased water heater and appliance efficiency
· Extended life of plumbing fixtures and appliances
· Reduced initial cost
· No ongoing costs
· Non-polluting
· Sparkling freshness
THOUSANDS OF SATISFIED CUSTOMERS
PowerMax Water Conditioner
Made in USA
TAP MAX PRODUCTS PHILIPPINES
Unit A-115 Hillcrest Cond., 1616 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Cubao, Q.C.
Tel. Nos.: 722-1031 / 726-8607 Fax No.: (632) 721-7401
Cell. Nos.: (0916) 403-5885 / (0917) 835-1945 E-mail: biscor@skyinet.net

BOOSTING YOUR SALES PERFORMANCE.
Time Proven Strategies to Increase Your Sales Effectiveness and Efficiency to Get More Customers, Achieve More Results, and Become More Profitable
MarkPlus&Co
MarkPlus Executive Session
Friday, July 29, 2005
Hotel Intercontinental, Makati City
Boosting Sales Force Performance is a half-day practical and knowledge-updating seminar on how sales managers and directors can increase the productivity and performance of their existing sales organizations. Boosting Sales Performance will share time-proven strategies and tactics to get the most out of your existing sales people and improve your sales organization in the future.
Session Fee
P 5.500 + VAT
P 5.000 each + VAT
P 4.500 each + VAT
Program Outline
3.30 - 15.00 Driving Your Sales Force Productivity I
The sales landscape is changing. No longer is it just a case of selecting, training and motivating a sales team. The role of the sales organization is rapidly changing and sales force management is now, more than ever, increasingly instrumental in overall company success. The focus on segmentation, strategy, people and systems are the keys to boost sales performance in any organizations.
15.00 - 15.30 Tea / Coffee Break
15.30 - 16.30 Driving Your Sales Force Productivity II
Boosting sales force productivity is the science of success. Learn what drives the efficiency and effectiveness of a sales force. Find out ways to increase your overall sales performance by balancing the need for operational efficiency and result-oriented effectiveness.
16.30 - 17.00 The 12 Fundamental Sales Management Truths
Be an effective sales manager by learning the 12 down-to-earth fundamental truths of sales management which can help you build a powerful and high-performing sales team in your organization.
Limited Arrangement :
Academician Class-Room: P 3.500 per person + VAT Limited for 5 full-time academicians (Provided with recommendation letter from the university)
Student Theater: P 2.500 per person + VAT Limited for 10 undergraduate students (with valid ID, age max 25 years old, no table, no interactions)
PMA Member Special Rate : P 5.000 + VAT
For further information and payment please contact:
Genevieve G. de Guia
Suite 1402, 14F, BDO Plaza, 8737
Paseo de Roxas, Makati City.
Phone: (632)816-1643 / (632)817-0706
Fax: (632)325-0288
Mobile: +639175003127
How Will You Benefit
1. Understand How the Sales Landscape is Shifting
2. How to Turn your Salesforce Organization into a Profit Engine
3. How to Build and Grow a High Performance Salesforce
4. How to Increase Sales Efficiency and Effectiveness through Salesforce Productivity Drivers
5. How to Leverage Sales Process Measurement and Sales Performance
6. How to Unleash Sales Recruiting, Sales Training, Sales Coaching, and Sales Management techniques to increase Sales Productivity
7. How to be an Effective Sales Manager which can help you Build a High-Performing Sales Team in your Sales Organization
Featuring: HERMAWAN KARTAJAYA
Asian Marketing Guru (CIM-UK, Dec 2003)
President of World marketing Association (WMA)
Founder and President of MarkPlus&Co
Supported by:
INQUIRER
PHILIPPINE MARKETING ASSOCIATION

bobson
One of the country's leading clothing brands is now open for franchise.
FOR INQUIRIES CONTACT:
THE FRANCHISE OFFICER AT
(632) 365-2800 TO 02
FAX (632)365-2803
SENSE N' STYLE INC. 581 A. BONIFACIO AVE. BALINTAWAK
QUEZON CITY
Visit our boutiques at
Celermall 2, Tutuban Manila; Ever Gotesco, Commonwealth; Metropolis Mall, Pasay City; Big R Supercenter, Cainta; Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall, Cainta; Robinsons Place, Ermita, Manila; NE Pacific Mall, Cabanatuan City; Megacenter Mall, Cabanatuan City; Magic Star Mall, Tarlac City; Metrotown Mall, Tarlac City; Family Choice Megamart, Cauayan Isabela; Brickstone Mall, Tuguegarao City; Centre Mall, Balanga Bataan; Nepo Mall, Dagupan City; CSI Mall, La Union City; Central Mall, Daet; Robinsons Place, Sta. Rosa Laguna; Robinsons Town Mall, Los Baños Laguna; Robinsons Place, Dasmariñas Cavite, Gaisano City, Bacolod; Robinsons Place, Iloilo City; Bohol Quality Mall; Elizabeth Mall, Cebu City; Gaisano Mall, Cagayan de Oro; Fitmart Mall, Koronadal South Cotabato; Gaisano Mall, Butuan City; Mindpro Mall, Zamboanga City;
Bobson is also available at leading department stores nationwide.

Edsa I vs Edsa II

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

SHE CAME to power through a soft coup, assumed office amid unresolved electoral issues, and hung on in Malacañang despite effective government having become an "impossible undertaking."

Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo? I'm sorry, but I'm referring to Corazon Aquino, who now has risen out of retirement to lecture an elected president about the importance of upholding the Constitution. Strange call from someone whose very first directive as president was to abolish the Constitution and establish a revolutionary government.

As events unfolded in rapid succession Friday, it became plain that Cory, Purisima and company, and the Makati Business Club had conspired to force GMA out of office.

A last-minute plea from Assumption nuns and top alumni for Cory to at least defer her announcement until after the Catholic bishops had finished their conclave this weekend proved impervious to a messianic mind.

What high crimes could GMA had committed to merit such disapproval from a *hacendera* from Tarlac and Big Business? Did she hire left-wingers in her Cabinet? Did her military mow down hapless peasants in Mendiola? Did she drive a Cabinet member to commit suicide?

"With her style of decision-making, the greater the damage on the economy," Purisima and company bewailed. A 6.1-percent 2004 GDP growth damaging?

"The continuous delay in promised reforms since the onset of this crisis only further illustrates her unwillingness to pursue genuine changes to strengthen damaged institutions," Finex piped in, while its former presidents continue slugging it out in court over purloined test papers..

"You simply did not talk with those who would decide your case. It was not done," wrote Cory spokesperson turned Erap defender Rene Saguisag, alluding to GMA having called the Comelec.

Saguisag then recalled the January 2001 events, when "few listened to Ka Celing (re-

COCKTALES/ B6

NOW AWARDING STALLS (FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED)

Tiangge
St. Francis SQUARE
ORTIGAS CENTER
(between SM Megamall and The Podium)

Great Buys, All the Time!!

SOON TO OPEN! FOR INQUIRIES CALL: 892-7777 (0916) 7005999

ASIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT

Venture Into Entrepreneurship (VIE)

Program Overview

VIE is a six-month course designed for people with a vision for success the entrepreneurial way. It is for aspiring entrepreneurs and start-up business owners looking for new business opportunities and seeking to acquire entrepreneurial skills and build the enterprise. VIE is divided into three tracks:

VIE-I
Building the Entrepreneurial Character
September 13 to 28, 2005

Do you have what it takes to be an entrepreneur?

Course Content:
- Discovering your potential: a self assessment of values and preferences
- Learn to Intuit and think critically
- Develop the entrepreneurial mindset and kindle the entrepreneurial spirit
- Opportunity seeking and screening
- Business formats and options
- Entrepreneurial Games

VIE-II
Building One's Entrepreneurial Skills
October 11 to 29, 2005

Do you want to hone your business skills and expertise in the four management functions?

Course Content:
- Marketing:
  - assessing market potentials
  - determining market feasibility
- Operations
  - matching product to market needs;
  - product development;
  - quality-delivery and productivity models
- Human resource and organizational development
- Finance for start-up enterprises
- Apprenticeship and group exercises

VIE-III
Building the Entrepreneurial Enterprise
January 17 to April 5, 2006

Do you need to learn the art and science of enterprise planning and business implementation?

Course Content:
- Enterprise life forces
- Environment scanning
- Evaluation of alternatives and opportunity assessment
- Developing the product and market entry strategies
- Implementation
- Commercialization and expansion
- Individual venture project mentoring

AIM ASIAN CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

EQUIS ACCREDITED

For inquiries and reservation call:
Ms. Luvy Villanueva | Ms. Liza Ayalde
Tel +632 892-4011 to 25 ext. 187, 252 Telefax +632 813-3302
Email ace@mail.aim.edu.ph | lvillanueva@mail.aim.edu.ph | mayalde@mail.aim.edu.ph
http://www.aim.edu.ph

Eugenio Lopez Foundation Bldg., Joseph R. McMicking Campus 123 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City 1260 Philippines

HONDA
The Power of Dreams

Your Smiles Our best reward.

At Honda, we tirelessly strive to create lifestyle vehicles that exceed your every expectation. And because of your votes that have awarded us these prestigious recognitions of excellence, we feel proud to have succeeded and proud of our Honda legacy.

So, thank you, this pushes us to make Honda better for you.

Reader's Digest Philippines SUPER BRAND 2005 voted by consumers

ACCORD
The 1st CAGI Awards
Overall Car of the Year 2005
Best Executive Sedan

CR-V
Gadget of the Year
People's Choice – Automobile Category

Jazz
2005 Auto Focus
Automobile of the Year
People's Choice - Subcompact of the Year

Visit any authorized dealers for details:

Metro Manila	
Honda Cars Makati, Inc	Tel No. (02) 852 4181, Fax No 852 1158
Honda Cars Alabang	Tel No (02) 807 7889 Fax No 809 5052
Honda Cars Kalookan, Inc	Tel No (02) 366 5701 Fax No 361 8445
Honda Cars Pasig	Tel. No (02) 634 2730 Fax No 637 2082
Honda Cars Quezon City, Inc	Tel Nos (02) 712 6850 to 61, Fax No 732 8559
Honda Cars Shaw	Tel No (02) 717 1081 Fax No 725 7673
Honda Cars Manila	Tel No (02) 562 4548 Fax No 564 7336
Honda Cars Fairview	Tel Nos (02) 9352655 9352617, Fax No 9357804
Honda Cars Marikina	Tel Nos. (02) 9426202, 9980512, Fax No 9423561
Provincial	
Honda Cars Cebu, Inc	Tel No (032) 2313502, Fax No (032) 2314488
Honda Cars San Pablo, Inc	Tel Nos (049) 5627713 to 14, Fax No (049) 5627712
Honda Cars Pangasinan, Inc	Tel Nos (075) 5221488 to 89 Fax No (075) 5173739
Honda Cars Davao Inc	Tel Nos (082) 2217406, 2222171 Fax No (082) 2217407
Honda Cars Pampanga Inc	Tel No (045) 9635119, Fax No (045) 9635554
Honda Cars Negros Occidental	Tel No. (034) 7078000, Fax No (034) 4411276
Honda Cars Tarlac, Inc	Tel Nos (045) 9828002 to 06, Fax No (045) 9828007
Honda Cars Cagayan De Oro	Tel Nos (088) 8564010 to 12 Fax No (088) 8584015
Honda Cars Gen. Santos, Inc	Tel Nos (083) 5539796 to 97, Fax No (083) 3013109
Honda Cars Isabela Inc	Tel No (078) 6521245, Fax No (078) 6521248
Honda Cars Mandaue	Tel No. (032) 4223700, Fax No (032) 4223800

www.hondaphil.com

PSE to entice mining firms to list

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

THE PHILIPPINE STOCK Exchange is reviewing its listing rules to revive companies' interest in raising funds through the stock market.

PSE president Francis Lim said the PSE was specifically looking at relaxing the profitability requirement to get mining firms to offer their shares to the public.

Current rules require that companies must first have a three-year track record of profitable operations before they can source funds from the stock market.

It usually take years, however, before mining companies can turn a profit due to the long-term nature of their business.

Carmen Copper Corp., a subsidiary of Atlas Consolidated Mining & Development Corp., expressed interest to offer its shares to the public this year.

Carmen Copper, which was incorporated last year, is involved in copper production in Atlas' Toledo mine in Cebu.

Atlas plans to spin off its copper operations through Carmen Copper.

Atlas' copper mining operations, which started commercial operations in 1955, are centered in Toledo City, Cebu, where two open pit mines, two underground mines and milling complexes are located.

The Cebu copper mine ceased operations in 1994. Activities after the shutdown have been limited to safeguarding and maintaining the property, plant and equipment at the site.

Meanwhile, the PSE recently inked a memorandum of agreement with the National Book Development Board to encourage publishing companies to tap the equities market.

The government-led NBDB regulates around 80 publishers nationwide.

NBDB chair Dennis Gonzales had said the board was looking at the possibility of requiring its member-publishers to list shares within three to five years after availing themselves of certain tax incentives from the NBDB.

Gonzales said NBDB would urge publishers to access capital from the stock market to raise funds for the upgrade of equipment to produce quality books and improve prices.

Among the publishers covered by the NBDB include National Bookstore, Rex Bookstore and Miranda Publishers.

The PSE is also convincing Philippine Business Bank, juice maker Zesto Corp., coffee shop operator Figaro and eTelecare to go public.

G&W clubshares
FREE PLAYING RIGHTS AVAILABLE As of July 11, 2005
SHARES AVAILABLE

CLUB	SELLER	BUYER
Alabang Country Club A	1,100,000	-
Alta Vista Corp.	-	300,000
Baguio Country Club	Pls. Call	530,000
Calatagan Golf	40,000	-
Camp John Hay	100,000	-
Canyon Woods	125,000	-
Capitol Hills	90,000	-
Cebu Country Club	1,400,000	-
Celebrity Sports	120,000	100,000
City Sports Club Cebu	Pls. Call	-
Club Filipino	110,000	-
Club Filipino De Cebu	-	150,000
Eagleridge A/B*/C**	190,000/250,000*/Pls. Call**	Pls. Call
Eastridge A/B*	Pls. Call	-
Evercrest	70,000	-
Forest Hills A/B*/C**	130,000/200,000*	-
Luisita Golf	350,000	-
Manila Golf Corporate	11,500,000	-
Manila Golf Individual	11,400,000	-
Manila Polo	-	2,100,000
Manila Southwoods A/B*	400,000	370,000/600,000*
Makati Sports Club	200,000	190,000
Metropolitan Club A/B*	120,000/150,000*	-
Mimosa C2/C3*	Pls. Call	Pls. Call
Mt. Malarayat A	330,000	180,000
Orchard A/B*/C**	170,000/300,000*	150,000/350,000**
Puerto Azul	80,000	-
Punta Fuego	Pls. Call	-
Quezon City Sports Club	150,000	130,000
Riviera Golf A/B*/C**	90,000/180,000*/230,000**	180,000**
Riviera Sports	45,000	-
Rockwell Leisure Club	260,000	-
Royale Tagaytay CC	80,000	-
Sherwood A/C**	70,000/160,000**	-
Sta. Elena Golf A/B*	1,250,000/1,500,000*	1,100,000
The Palms Country Club	855,000	-
Tagaytay Country Club	380,000	-
Tagaytay Highlands	730,000	850,000
Tagaytay Midlands	650,000	-
The Country Club	2,000,000	-
Tower Club	Pls. Call	-
Valley Golf	240,000	-
Valle Verde Ind.	120,000	-
Wack Wack Golf	8,500,000	-

Tel. 7723246-49/8504151-52
(0917)3287789 E-mail:gwclubshares@yahoo.com

FRANCISCO V. DEL ROSARIO HOLDINGS, INC.
YOUR TRUSTED SPECIALIST BROKER SINCE 1982•
SEC License #BD-00141
OUR 23rd Year
BUY/SELL GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB SHARES
As of July 08, 2005

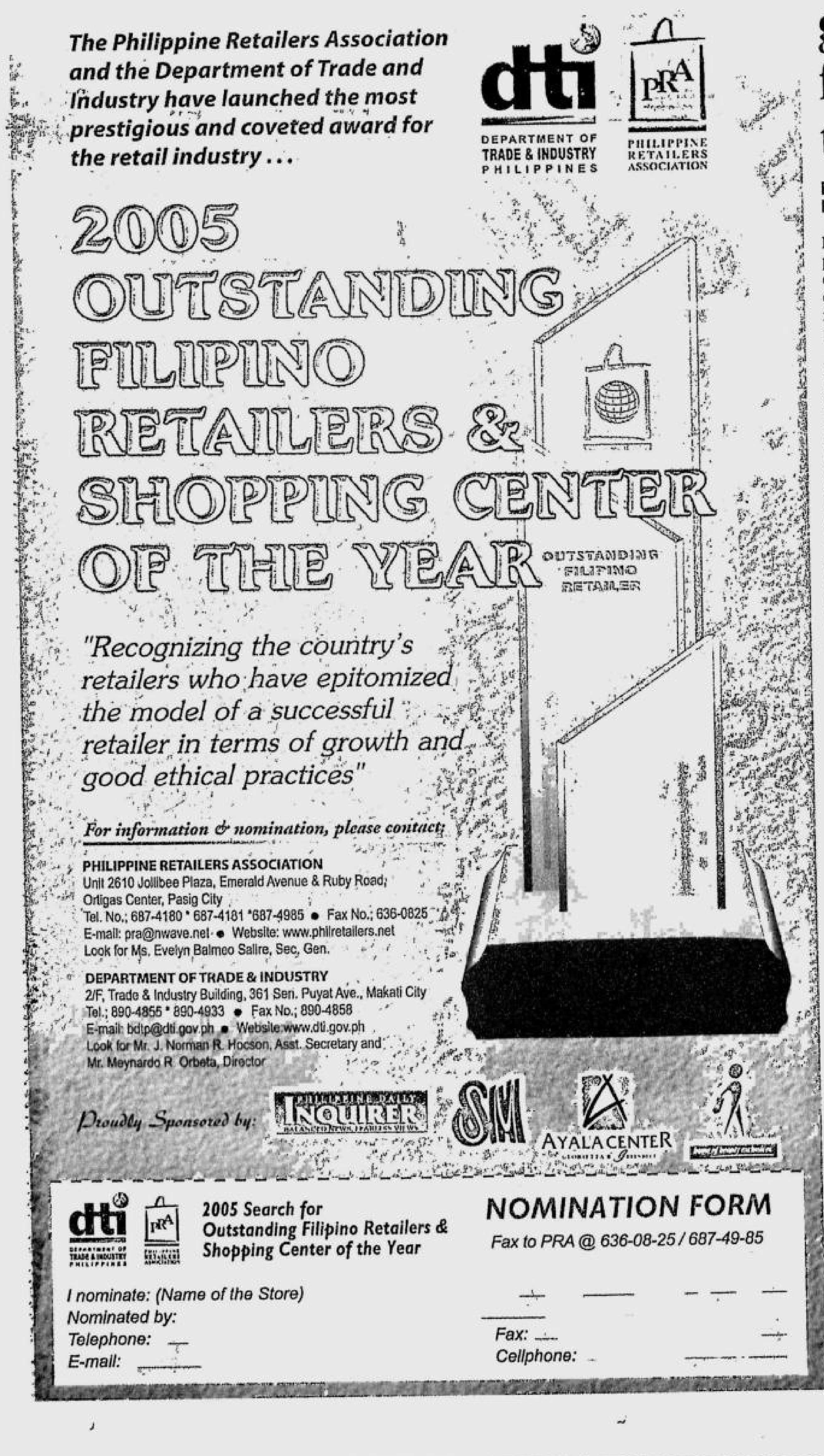
CLUB	SELLING	BUYING
Alabang Country Club "A"	please call	please call
Baguio Country Club	660K	-
Camp John Hay	180K	
Canlubang Golf Club		600K
Canyon Woods	125K	-
Capitol Hills "A"	80K	
Celebrity Sports Club	115K	
Club Filipino	90K	
Eagleridge Golf Club "A"	190K	
Eagleridge Golf Club "C"	300K	
Forest Hills Golf Club (Individual)	190K	
Makati Sports Club "A"	-	180K
Manila Golf Club (Corp.)		please call
Manila Golf Club (Individual)		10.5M
Manila Polo Club	please call	please call
Manila Southwoods "A"	375K	please call
Manila Southwoods "B"	700K	-
Manila Yacth Club	320K	
Mimosa Ind.	-	140K
Mimosa C3		330K
Mt. Malarayat "B"	-	200K
Mt. Malarayat "C"		380K
Quezon City Sports Club "A"	160K	-
Riviera Golf Club "B"	150K	
Riviera Sports Club	90K	
Rockwell Club	280K	
Sherwood Hills "B"	85K	
Splendido	please call	
Spa & Lodge	590K	
Sta. Elena Golf Club "A"	1.2M	
Sta. Elena Golf Club "B"		1.4M
Subic Bay Yacht Club	100K	
Tagaytay Higlands	750K	
Tagaytay Midlands		650K
Tower Club (Ind.)	300K	
Valley Golf Club	330K	
Wack Wack Golf Club	please call	[illegible]

LESSORS for PLAYING RIGHTS also available
please call / inquire
AMIE MAGAT / VIRGIE LIM / REY CUEVAS / RONY RIBAÑO
Tels: 818-6991 • 818-6948 • 818-6935 Fax #818-5453
E-MAIL ADDRESS: fvrh@info.com.ph

GG & A Club Shares
SEC License Broker #007575 * As of July 11, 2005

CLUB	SELLER	BUYER
Alabang Country Club "A" (Filipino)	1,100,000	-
Alabang Country Club "B" (Foreigner)	1,200,000	-
Baguio Country Club	550,000	520,000
Calatagan Golf Club "A"	40,000	-
Calatagan Golf Club "B"	70,000	50,000
Camp John Hay	180,000	-
Canlubang	475,000	400,000
Canyon Woods	125,000	-
Capitol Hills	90,000	-
Cebu Country Club	1,500,000	-
Celebrity Sports Club	120,000	100,000
Club Filipino	110,000	100,000
Eagleridge "A"/"B"/"C"	Please Call	Please Call
Forest Hills "A"	130,000	100,000
Forest Hills "B"	200,000	-
Forest Hills "C"	200,000	-
Luisita Golf	350,000	300,000
Makati Sports Club "A"	200,000	180,000
Makati Sports Club "B"	230,000	-
Manila Golf (Corporate)	-	11,000,000
Manila Golf (Individual)	-	11,000,000
Manila Polo	2,200,000	2,100,000
Manila Southwoods "A"	380,000	300,000
Manila Southwoods "B"	-	680,000
Manila Yacht Club	400,000	330,000
Metroclub "A"	130,000	-
Mimosa (Individual)	-	130,000
Mimosa (Corporate)	-	330,000
Mt. Malarayat Gold "A"	230,000	180,000
Mt. Malarayat Gold "C"	300,000	280,000
Orchard Golf Club "A"	210,000	160,000
Orchard Golf Club "B"	280,000	-
Orchard Golf Club "C"	350,000	-
Quezon City Sports Club	150,000	130,000
Spa & Lodge	600,000	500,000
Sta. Elena "A"	1,200,000	1,000,000
Sta. Elena "B"	1,500,000	-
Subic Bay Yacht (Corporate)	170,000	-
Subic Bay Yacht (Individual)	100,000	-
Tagaytay Country Club	Please Call	350,000
Tagaytay Highlands	750,000	650,000
Tagaytay Midlands	680,000	620,000
The Palms Country Club	550,000	500,000
Valle Verde (Individual)	120,000	-
Valle Verde (Corporate)	200,000	-
Valley Golf	240,000	200,000
Wack-Wack Golf Club	6,500,000	6,300,000

*PLAYING RIGHTS ALSO AVAILABLE
For more information, please call:
Tel.no. 840-1761 • Fax 894-3021 • Mobile 0927-8765673
or e-mail at: ggashare@mozcom.com
Penthouse, Pacific Star Bldg. Sen Gil Puyat cor Makati Ave., Makati City
CLUB SHARES BY CREDIT CARD !!!
You may now charge your purchase or lease of clubshares using your credit card.
Great deals for deferred payment transaction await major accredited cardholders
For inquiries call our hotline 751-GOLF / trunk line 840-1761, or log on to www.ggaclubshares.com for more details.


The Philippine Retailers Association and the Department of Trade and Industry have launched the most prestigious and coveted award for the retail industry . . .

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY PHILIPPINES
PHILIPPINE RETAILERS ASSOCIATION

2005 OUTSTANDING FILIPINO RETAILERS & SHOPPING CENTER OF THE YEAR

"Recognizing the country's retailers who have epitomized the model of a successful retailer in terms of growth and good ethical practices"

For information & nomination, please contact:

PHILIPPINE RETAILERS ASSOCIATION
Unit 2610 Jollibee Plaza, Emerald Avenue & Ruby Road,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. No.: 687-4180 * 687-4181 *687-4985 • Fax No.: 636-0825
E-mail: pra@nwave.net • Website: www.philretailers.net
Look for Ms. Evelyn Balmeo Salire, Sec. Gen.

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY
2/F, Trade & Industry Building, 361 Sen. Puyat Ave., Makati City
Tel.: 890-4855 * 890-4933 • Fax No.: 890-4858
E-mail: bdtp@dti.gov.ph • Website: www.dti.gov.ph
Look for Mr. J. Norman R. Hocson, Asst. Secretary and
Mr. Meynardo R. Orbeta, Director

Proudly Sponsored by:

2005 Search for Outstanding Filipino Retailers & Shopping Center of the Year

NOMINATION FORM
Fax to PRA @ 636-08-25 / 687-49-85

I nominate: (Name of the Store)
Nominated by:
Telephone:
Fax:
E-mail:
Cellphone:

Q2 good for telcos

By Clarissa S. Batino

DESPITE the weaker peso against the US dollar, telecommunications companies remained profitable in the second quarter.

The Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. said its P2.4 billion in foreign exchange gains during the first quarter were nearly wiped out as of June, with the drop in the peso's value during the second quarter.

PLDT president Napoleon Nazareno, however, said that despite the erosion in the company's windfall forex gains, recurring profits from April to June were likely better than the P7 billion in the first quarter.

Globe Telecom Inc. said it also took a hit from the weaker exchange rate.

"Definitely, we are hit badly by the exchange rate drop in June," said Globe's chief financial officer Delfin Gonzalez.

Gonzalez, however, declined to elaborate.

The telecom giants are nursing huge dollar debts that make them vulnerable to exchange rate fluctuations.

PLDT is more vulnerable than Globe due to its nearly $2 billion in debt.

Nazareno had said in May that for every peso movement in the local currency, PLDT gains or loses about P2 billion, because of its debts.

For Globe, Gonzalez said the impact is about P500 million since half of its $900 million in debt was still denominated in dollars.

Q2 GOOD/B5

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of July 8, 2005)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	29.5	30	29.5	30	721,500
Bank of the Phil. Islands	45.5	46	44.5	46	3,744,300
China Banking Corp.	770	770	770	770	610
Citystate Savings Bank	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	1,000
Export and Ind. Bank Inc.	0.51	0.52	0.5	0.52	740,000
International Exch. Bank	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	5,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	26	27	26	27	1,058,700
Philippine National Bank	42	42	41.5	42	29,000
Security Bank Corp.	26.5	27	26	26.5	809,500
Union Bank of the Phil.	28.5	28.5	28	28	15,000
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
First Metro Invest. Corp.	260	265	260	265	150
Manulife Financial Corp.	2640	2640	2640	2640	500
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1	1	1	1	20,000
Phil. Stock Exchange Inc.	135	135	135	135	200
Sun Life Financial Inc.	1880	1920	1880	1920	3,420
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATIO					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	10.75	12.75	10.25	12.75	346,800
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.97	1.02	0.94	1.02	4,440,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	810	815	800	815	28,590
Ipeople Inc.	3.5	3.5	3.45	3.5	86,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	2.5	2.7	2.46	2.7	10,497,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1550	1600	1550	1595	108,990
Philweb Corp.	0.015	0.016	0.015	0.016	23,300,000
POWER, ENERGY & OTHER UTILITIES					
Manila Electric Co. A	14.75	16	14.5	15.75	201,200
Manila Electric Co. B	23	24.75	22.5	24.75	949,700
Manila Water Co. Inc.	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.2	1,278,000
Petron Corp.	2.7	2.85	2.65	2.85	6,406,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	1.08	1.08	1.06	1.08	254,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	7.2	7.4	7.1	7.4	755,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.64	0.64	0.64	0.64	230,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	15,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.54	0.55	0.54	0.55	430,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	2.75	2.9	2.75	2.9	220,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	6,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	10,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	29	29.5	29	29.5	228,200
Jollibee Foods Corp.	28.5	28.5	27.5	28.5	182,300
Pancake House Inc.	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	20,000
San Miguel Corp. A	59.5	60	59.5	60	88,900
San Miguel Corp. B	90	92.5	90	92.5	163,400
Universal Robina Corp.	16	16	15.75	16	132,600
Vitarich Corp.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	600,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.0075	0.008	0.007	0.008	20,000,000
Ayala Corp.	280	287.5	267.5	287.5	292,370
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	4.55	4.7	4.55	4.7	2,935,000
Ajo Net Holdings Inc.	0.023	0.023	0.022	0.023	12,400,000
A. Soriano Corp.	1.88	1.88	1.84	1.86	1,147,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	20,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.49	0.49	0.49	0.49	240,000
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.1	0.11	0.1	0.11	500,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1	1.1	0.95	1.1	51,550,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.22	0.23	0.2	0.23	890,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	2.36	2.42	2.24	2.38	12,714,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.03	0.03	0.028	0.028	1,000,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.04	1.06	1.04	1.04	619,000
Fil-Hispano Holdings Corp.	5.6	6.1	5.6	6.1	1,461,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	39.5	44	37.5	43.5	4,547,800
Forum Pacific Inc	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	10,000
Ionics Inc.	1.1	1.12	1.1	1.1	2,182,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	3.05	3.35	3.05	3.3	1,271,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	130,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.16	1.2	1.06	1.18	5,434,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.32	0.33	0.3	0.33	15,020,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.18	0.19	0.175	0.19	230,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	1	1	1	1	50,000
SM Investments Corp.	248	248	245	246	157,940
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.175	0.175	0.16	0.165	1,560,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185	100,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Picop Resources Inc.	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	700,000
Pryce Corp.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	140,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	1	1.04	0.97	1.04	14,525,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	20,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	1.02	1.1	1	1.1	1,468,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	10.75	13	10.75	12.5	1,490,900
PLDT (10% Pref) Series O	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Q	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series R	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series S	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	300
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT (10% pref) series Z	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	300
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	7.3	7.4	6.9	7.4	21,044,000
Cityland Development Corp.	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	51,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.85	0.86	0.85	0.86	250,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.22	0.235	0.21	0.23	8,350,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185	280,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.31	0.37	0.31	0.37	8,420,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.28	1.34	1.2	1.32	10,768,000
Gotesco Land Inc.	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	200,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	300,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.4	0.47	0.4	0.47	110,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	2,000
Phil Realty And Holdings	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	600,000
SM Development Corp.	1.34	1.36	1.34	1.36	113,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7.1	7.4	7	7.3	19,973,000
MINING					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.006	0.007	0.006	0.007	70,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	4.9	5	4.9	5	227,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	7,980,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.31	0.33	0.31	0.32	3,390,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.014	0.015	0.014	0.015	15,100,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.017	0.018	0.017	0.018	77,300,000
Omico Corp.	0.0055	0.006	0.005	0.006	180,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.8	0.82	0.8	0.82	1,070,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.91	0.94	0.9	0.94	1,730,000
Semirara Mining Corp.	27.5	29.5	27.5	28	2,343,900
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	100,000
OIL					
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	50,000,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.55	8,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.125	0.135	0.125	0.135	7,700,000

CURRENCIES

July 8, 2005 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.837030	1.000000	56.2840
Japan	Yen	0.007470	0.008925	0.5023
United Kingdom	Pound	1.460283	1.744600	98.1931
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.107688	0.128655	7.2412
Switzerland	Franc	0.644762	0.770297	43.3554
Canada	Dollar	0.681510	0.814200	45.8264
Singapore	Dollar	0.492834	0.588789	33.1394
Australia	Dollar	0.619335	0.739919	41.6456
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.220298	2.652590	149.2984
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.223202	0.266660	15.0087
Brunei	Dollar	0.491388	0.587061	33.0421
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000085	0.000102	0.0057
Thailand	Baht	0.020054	0.023958	1.3485
UAE	Dirham	0.227900	0.272272	15.3246
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.194700	67.2425
Argentina	Peso	0.290888	0.347524	19.5600
Brazil	Real	0.351251	0.419639	23.6190
Denmark	Kroner	0.134161	0.160282	9.0213
India	Rupee	0.019220	0.022962	1.2924
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.220283	0.263172	14.8124
Mexico	New Peso	0.077635	0.092751	5.2204
New Zealand	Dollar	0.562823	0.672405	37.8456
Norway	Kroner	0.126583	0.151229	8.5118
Pakistan	Rupee	0.014049	0.016784	0.9447
South Africa	Rand	0.122126	0.145904	8.2121
Korea	Won	0.000796	0.000951	0.0535
Sweden	Kroner	0.106073	0.126725	7.1326
Syria	Pound	0.016125	0.019264	1.0843
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.026149	0.031240	1.7583
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000390	0.000466	0.0262

Cautious trading . . .

From page B1

a relief rally since the political worries are out of the way. But whether this positive sentiment in the market will be sustainable is still a big question," said April Lee, head of research at CitisecOnline.Com Phils. Inc.

"The calls for GMA to step down is gaining momentum. The market reacted negatively to her pronouncement that she would consolidate her power by surrounding herself with Cabinet members loyal to her. What really turned the market around were calls from her former Cabinet (officials) asking her to resign and the support they have announced to whoever will take over from GMA," Lee said.

Proof of the market's bets that De Castro will soon assume power was the gain in Lopez-owned First Philippine Holdings Corp. last Friday. It accounted for 12.94 percent of total market turnover and closed at P43.50, up by 8.75 percent.

ABS-CBN also surged 21.4 percent to P12.75 last Friday. Another Lopez-owned firm, Benpres Holdings Corp., climbed 10 percent to P1.10.

"(Last Friday) was a relief rally as the market factors in a possible constitutional solution to the current political scenario. We think the underlying fundamentals are still positive and that corporate earnings growth will hit double digit," said Paul Joseph Garcia, chief investment officer at ING Investment Management Philippines. *Elizabeth L. Sanchez*

Q2 good for telcos

From page B4

PLDT said that the exchange rate as of end-March was P54.70 to the dollar.

By the end of June, the peso dropped to P56.177.

Due to foreign exchange gains in the first quarter, PLDT posted its highest quarterly profit of P9.36 billion from January to March. Globe, though, was not as successful, as it netted only P3.02 billion during the same period.

Telco executives earlier warned that any lingering political uncertainties could cause the peso to lose more of its value against the US dollar.

PLDT chair Manuel Pangilinan had advised that companies must "look through the political situation."

Riverview
Cell. No.: 0918-9142837 • 0917-5449913
Manila: (02) 925-8858 / 928-4014
Calamba: (049) 545-1856 / 545-2112
Website: www.riverview.com.ph

Resort & Conference Center
Calamba - in the heart of Calabarzon

BED & BREAKFAST PROMO	SEMINAR PACKAGE
P 1,599 - Deluxe Room	P 970 - Platinum
P 1,799 - Jr. Executive Room	P 785 - Gold
P 1,999 - Executive Room	P 695 - Silver

A HEART ATTACK IS FATAL

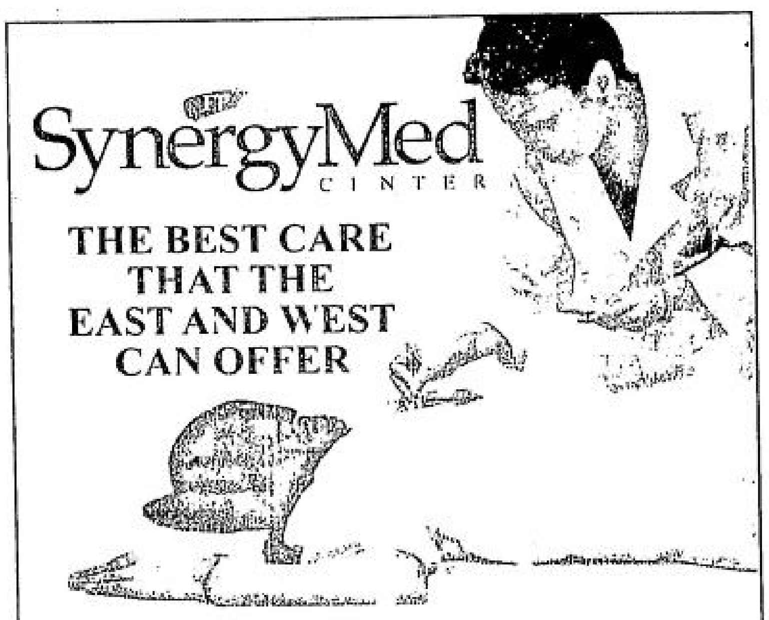
BE READY IF IT STRIKES!

OXYLITE PORTABLE OXYGEN

- Handy and Portable
- Ideal for travel
- Imported from U.S.A.

FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

STAR MILLS PAMPANGA 2nd Floor (45) 636-3513	SM MANILA 5th Floor 484-1471	ROBINSONS PIONEER 2nd Floor 687-6828
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr. Bldg. A 635-0436	SM SOUTHMALL Basement 802-1565	SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453-3326
CEBU 412-4818	SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-7540	ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061


SynergyMed
CENTER
THE BEST CARE THAT THE EAST AND WEST CAN OFFER

Just a few of the illnesses proven cured by ***Acupuncture*** *and* ***Acupressure:***

Lower Back Pains • Cough/Colds • Neck & Shoulder Pains • Eating Disorders • Arthritis • Bell's Palsy or Facial Paralysis • Allergic Rhinitis • Problems of Scoliosis • Stroke • Indigestion or Poor Digestion • Headache / Migraine • Depression / Anxiety • Sleeplessness • Hypertension • Muscular Strain • Elevated Uric Acid • Poor Blood Circulation • Cold Feet and Hands • Prostate Problems • Tennis Elbow • Irregular Menstruation / Dysmenorrhea • Infertility • Erectile Dysfunction

Awarded as the Most Outstanding Acupuncture and Acupressure Center for the following:

- *2005 Philippine Business Achievers Award Most Outstanding Acupuncture & Acupressure Center*
- *2005 Parangal sa Pamilyang Pilipino and Family Products & Services Excellence Award Best Acupuncture & Acupressure Center*

Holistic Program
(Executive Check-up)

Both our Western and Eastern doctors are equipped with modern tools and top-of-the-line clinical laboratory to provide our patients with an accurate and reliable diagnosis to precisely identify their needed medical attention. Traditional Chinese Medical treatments are made available and incorporated in our unique system for a holistic approach to total health care and maintenance.

Be privileged to the benefits of health care from a fusion of East and West traditions.

For inquiries and reservations, please call our hotlines:

631-2611 • 631-4793

23/F Discovery Suites,
ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center,
Pasig City, Philippines
www.fp-synergymed.com

Experience the therapeutic effects of our relaxing Chinese Body Massage and pampering Chinese Foot Therapy.
Other services: Abdomen Vibration Therapy, Ear Acupuncture Therapy, Pre-employment and Annual Physical Examinations.

EASTWESTBANK
East West Getaways
Open an account or Refer a friend!
Get a chance to win a trip to these exciting destinations for FREE!
GRAND PRIZE
1st Draw
Trip for 4 to
Los Angeles, California
GRAND PRIZE
2nd Draw
Trip for 4 to
Orlando, Florida
OTHER PRIZES AT STAKE:
First Draw: (Trip for 4)
Hong Kong
Bangkok, Thailand
El Nido, Palawan
Second Draw: (Trip for 4)
Gold Coast, Australia
Beijing / Shanghai, China
El Nido, Palawan

2 ways to join:

First, open a savings or checking account and earn a raffle entry for every ₱2,000 average collected daily balance. With additional deposits, earn more raffle entries.*

Second, if you're already an East West Bank depositor, refer a friend and get 20 instant raffle entries PLUS rewards or gift certificates.**

* Additional or incremental average collected daily balance of ₱2,000 entitles depositor to one (1) raffle entry.
** Rewards will depend on amount opened by referred account.

Participating accounts:

- Regular Checking
- Passbook / ATM / Statement Savings
- BizCheque
- Savings Maximizer
- ChequeMax Plus
- Infinity Savings
- Infinity Checking

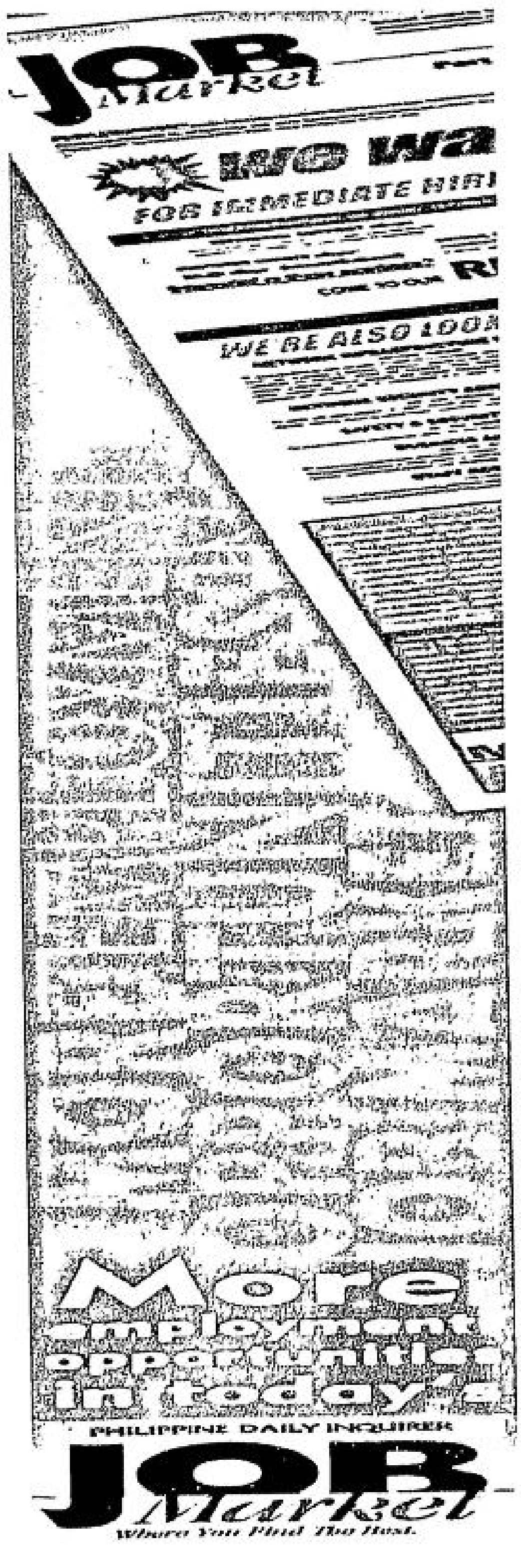
See flyers for details.
Promo runs from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006 only.

BancNet
PDIC

EASTWESTBANK
Building Relationships. Completing Lives.
www.eastwestbanker.com
Main Office: 6795 Ayala Ave., corner Herrera St., Salcedo Village, Makati City
Tel. No.: 815-0233 Fax No.: 818-4155

For inquiries, call 888-17

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3495, Series of 2005.


JOB Market
We wa
FOR IMMEDIATE HIRI
WE ARE ALSO LOO
More employment opportunities in today's
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOB Market
Where You Find The Best.

Bangkok to New York Non-stop

The fastest service from Southeast Asia

With THAI's new business class, Royal Silk Class, and a revolution in comfort with new Airbus A340-500 carriers, you can fly non-stop from Bangkok to New York in record time: 17 hours. This service offers more spacious cabins with increased personal space, greater comfort with "Lie-flat" 170-degree seat, and better entertainment than ever before.

Unique and charming, a legendary THAI's Royal Orchid Service will ensure a memorable journey and that you are fresh and invigorated when arriving at your magnificent city. The New York Silk Express also provides you with convenient connecting flights through Bangkok so you can spend your valuable time wandering around your perfect destination.

You can now say "I Love New York" 6 times a week with THAI. The New York non-stop from 1st May, 2005.

THAI. Smooth as silk.

For more information, please call your travel agent or THAI:
Makati 812.4744 · Manila 528.0122 to 25 · Cebu (032) 232.2405

THAI
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

Undue ad-VAT-age

NO FREE LUNCH

Cielito F. Habito

BEFORE the Supreme Court issued its temporary restraining order (TRO) against the Expanded VAT (e-VAT) Law or R.A. No. 9337, huge streamers hung across portions of the South Luzon Expressway (and I suppose along its counterpart in the north as well) announcing that effective July 1, an additional 10 percent would be added to the highway tolls due to implementation of e-VAT.

Prices of refined petroleum products were similarly poised to be raised by 10 percent (about P3 a liter) on July 1. Same is true with our electric power bills. Domestic airlines had similarly served notice that airfares were to go up by 10 percent to reflect the addition of the VAT. Meanwhile, having been subject to the VAT even before RA 9337, a major cellular phone service provider has been routinely adding a 10-percent VAT to its service charges in the monthly bills of postpaid subscribers all these years.

There is something terribly wrong in all of this.

Necessary evil

Don't get me wrong; I am not against the VAT, or even the e-VAT Law. Unpopular as the law is, I am among those who lament the Supreme Court's action halting of the collection of the VAT on previously exempted goods and services now subject to the tax with its expanded coverage under RA 9337. My position has always been, as it remains now, that expanding the coverage of the VAT and raising its rate from 10 to 12 percent had become a necessary evil to speed up resolution of the government's fiscal crisis. It wouldn't have been as necessary had Congress (and allegedly Malacañang as well) not succumbed to pressure to water down the earlier law that could have dramatically raised the yield of excise taxes on "sin" products.

While the ideal would have been to achieve dramatic improvement in tax administration without raising additional taxes, we all know that such improvement will not happen overnight. This is notwithstanding the impressive gains being made by just-resigned Revenue Commissioner Willy Parayno in effecting greater tax compliance, whose results have already been evident in past months. He and Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima were among the most prominent saving graces of the beleaguered Arroyo administration, and their principled resignation now deals a most telling blow to the government's economic management efforts, particularly in overcoming the fiscal crisis.

Disguised price increase

Even if we were all to accept the imposition of the VAT on previously exempted items like highway toll fees, domestic airline tickets, petroleum products and electric power, it is wrong and unjustified to simply add on 10 percent to the pre-VAT prices of these commodities paid by us end-consumers. Doing so would be tantamount to imposing on all of us a disguised price increase for these products.

This is because the e-VAT actually increases the cost of providing these products to the end-consumers by much less than 10 percent. Let us not forget that these same firms will still be able to credit VAT payments made on their inputs against the 10-percent VAT computed on their final output. Under the limits of the new law, these input VAT credits can go up to 70 percent of the output VAT due from these firms. Before e-VAT, many VAT-able firms were actually claiming input VAT credits even in excess of the VAT due on their output, leading to a negative net VAT payable to BIR!

This should tell us consumers, then, that even if firms entirely pass on to us the additional cost of the e-VAT, it should be significantly less than 10 percent of the value of their output. Assuming the maximum 70 percent input VAT credit, the additional burden that should be passed on to us should only be 3 percent. By collecting 10 percent from us, the firms in this case would have actually hit us with an unjustified 7 percent price increase.

Note that even the 10-percent VAT added to our bill by a cell phone company all these years effectively collects from us more than what the company actually remits to BIR.

Tax offsets

There's even more reason why a simple 10 percent addition to price is highly unjustified. In the case of fuel and electricity, Energy Secretary Raphael Lotilla had recently pointed out that the hike in their prices should be less than 10 percent because "mitigating measures" would reduce this increase on certain products to only 6 percent. He was referring to the corresponding cut in excise taxes and import duties that was to accompany the imposition of the VAT, particularly for diesel fuel and kerosene.

In the case of airlines, the 10-percent VAT on domestic airfares actually replaces the 3-percent common carrier's tax. Thus, the maximum net increase in their tax burden is only 7 percent. And given the input VAT credits they can still claim, the net increase in their price should be even less. At the same time, domestically owned airlines operating international flights have had the 3-percent percentage tax replaced by a zero VAT for foreign passengers (i.e. because all export sales are levied a zero VAT), with the possibility of claiming input VAT credits to boot! Thus, a simple 10-percent addition to fares would clearly be unwarranted.

I am not arguing against the VAT, nor the e-VAT. But when that TRO does get lifted, and the newly covered companies then hit us with a full 10 percent addition to the price, we should all be aware that we are being taken undue advantage of.

Comments welcome at chabito@ateneo.edu

Cocktales

From page B3

tired Justice Cecilia Muñoz Palma) and me" to prevent what he said was the "gang-rape of the Constitution."

The Harvard-educated lawyer then added: "Chief Justice (Hilario) Davide would not take her (Palma's) frantic calls that morning of Jan. 20, 2001. She urged the resumption of the impeachment process..."

So it was okay to badger and call the Supreme Court, but not the Commission on Elections?

(Aside: This happened during the Cory years. I was in the office of then Executive Secretary Joker Arroyo when Palma, then with the Constitutional Commission, called Arroyo to follow up the government appointment of her son.)

The Marcos-Erap forces, in consort with the Left and Yellow Businessmen, now want GMA to resign because of an illicit taped conversation provided by Francisco Tatad, the same martial law spokesperson who embroidered the ambush tale of then Defense Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile as basis for martial rule and subsequent kleptocracy.

The same Opus Dei Tatad, who dished out lies after lies as Marcos spokesperson, now preaching about truth setting us free?

You insist that GMA never really won the elections?

Tape or no tape, there is a simple test to check if indeed GMA had cheated her way to Malacañang. The opposition, Namfrel, and the administration have their respective copies of electoral returns. Just compare returns.

This elementary fact-checking duty, even the Integrated Bar of the Philippines now has thrown out the window in a rush to judgment. The due process guarantee in court litigation apparently does not extend to an unpopular and *mataray* President. If the lawyers did this under the Erap and Marcos regimes, which *kangkungan* would they land?

And so, once again, the masses are being summoned by the statue of Ninoy, this time with Imee Marcos and JV Ejercito as pied pipers, right under the noses of the Ayalas. Edsa I, meet Edsa III.

And to those of you who are still quietly discerning over the prayer of the Edsa I leader to press for the ouster of the Edsa II leader, let me end with this received text: *Kung si Kris, hindi sumusunod kay* Cory, *tayo pa.*

(Email: cocktales_pdi@pldtdsl.net or cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com)

Power sector gets . . .

From page B1

Tan said the $950 million consisted of a direct credit worth $450 million, and a guarantee to the planned bond float by Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. (PSALM) worth $500 million.

He said PSALM was preparing the $500-million bond issue, the proceeds of which will be used to meet the state-owned firm's financing requirements.

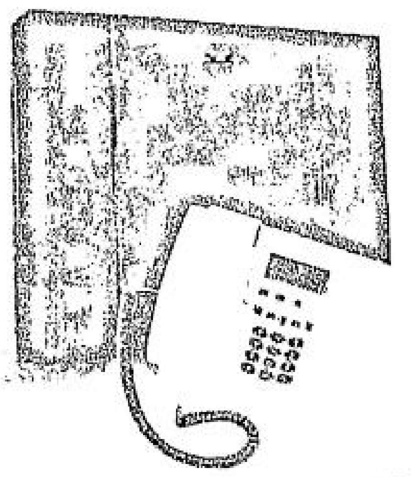
The $450-million direct credit will be used to fund the requirements of losing state-owned power firm National Power Corp. (Napocor). Tan said PSALM and the Department of Finance were looking for another creditor that could extend co-financing for Napocor.

The two agencies are considering the Japan Bank for International Cooperation, although no specific amount of co-financing has been set.

Napocor expects to post a budget deficit of P4.16 billion this year.

While Napocor's deficit still account for one of the biggest among government-owned and -controlled corporations this year, the power firm's projected budget gap for 2005 is already a significant improvement from the previous year's P73.38 billion.

Finance Undersecretary Nieves Osorio, who monitors state-owned firms, earlier said the much better deficit position of Napocor would result from the expected collection of the proceeds from the sale of some of its assets, including the Masinloc coal-fired power plant.



Future proof your PABX with SIEMENS

HiPath 1150 is a powerful telephone system that is future proof, and that can be adapted perfectly to suit the size of your company. Its unique feature allows you to upgrade your system when a new telephone technology comes in handy in the coming years. HiPath 1150—technology-ready and flexible.

HiPath 1150

for higher productivity, improved efficiency and greater security of small and medium-sized companies.

2 to 10 direct lines
10 to 50 extensions

- Analog/Digital/ISDN
- ADSL broadband access
- Router/Firewall

Php 7,083*
0% INTEREST for 12 MOS

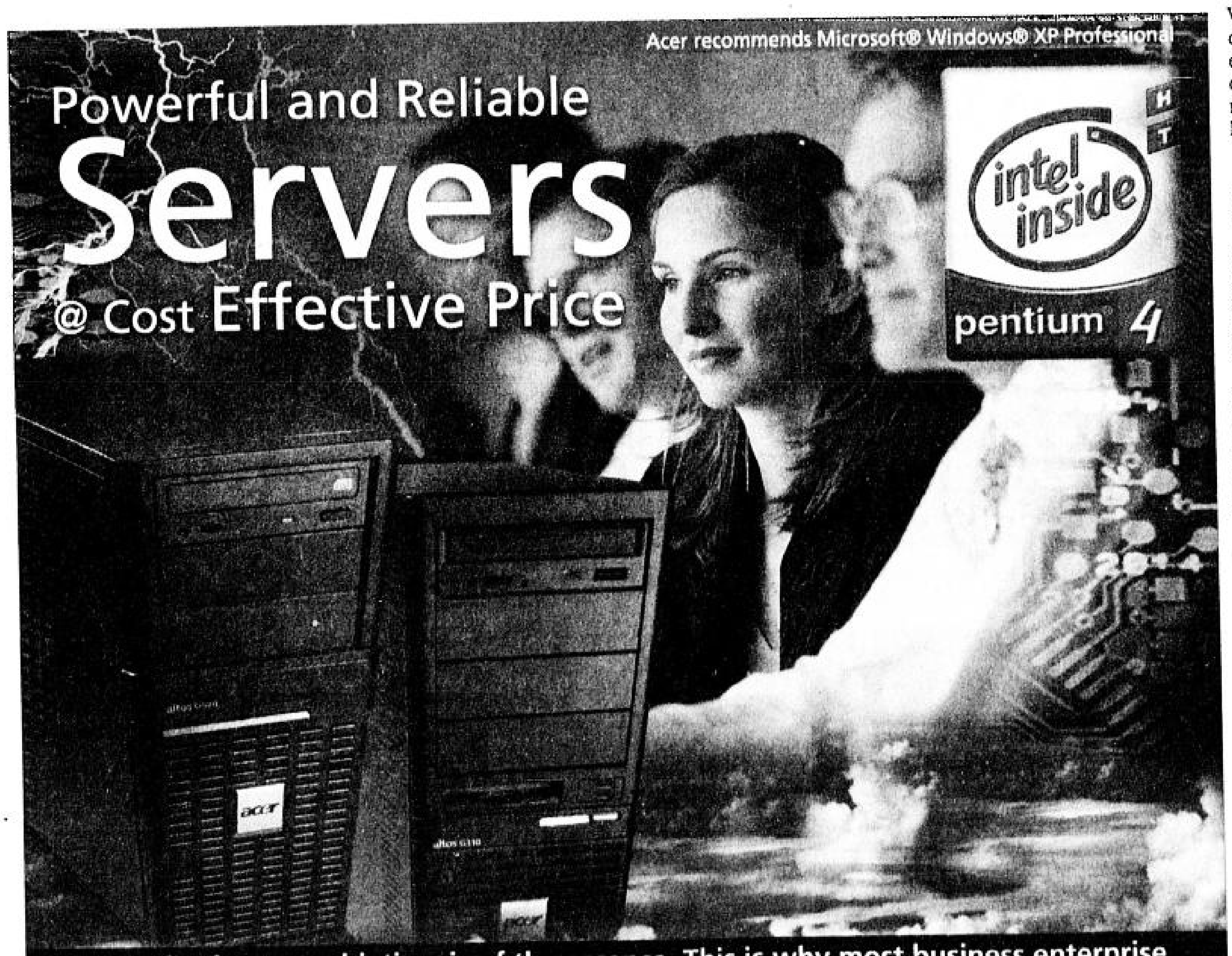
*Based on 8 lines x 16 extensions and does not include telephone sets and installation.
*Payable in 12 equal monthly payment.
*Subject to LNI credit approval.
*Promo period: July 11 to August 31, 2005

Here's more! Avail during promo period and get a **Profiset 3030** 16-key central telephone set worth P 10,531 for **FREE.**

Exclusively Distributed by:
Lattice NETWORKS
#455 Gen. Bautista St., San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel.:7230601 • Fax.:7237951
www.latticenetworks.com.ph

See flyers for complete details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A3-550, Series of 2005.

Call now for a FREE DEMO!



In the business world, time is of the essence. This is why most business enterprise always depend on servers that is not only reliable, but also a cost-effective one.

Acer presents its current line-up of affordable and powerful servers that always put value in every performance.

Practical
Acer Altos G310 Mk2 (SATA)
- Intel Pentium 4 Processor 3.0GHz, 800MHz FSB, 1MB L2 Cache
- Intel Hyper-Threading Technology Support (Prescott LGA-775)
- Extended Memory 64-bit Technology Support
- Intel E7221MC Chipset
- 512 MB DDR2 400 ECC Unbuffered Memory (4GB Max)
- Integrated PCI Express X8 Graphics Controller
- Integrated Dual-port Ethernet (10/100 & 1000 MBps)
- 160GB SATA HDD
- CDRW Drive & 3.5" 1.44 MB FDD
- PS/2 Keyboard & Mouse

SRP 49,900 Php

Reliable
Acer Altos G310 Mk2 (SCSI)
- Intel Pentium 4 Processor 3.0GHz, 800MHz FSB, 1MB L2 Cache
- Intel Hyper-Threading Technology Support (Prescott LGA-775)
- Extended Memory 64-bit Technology Support
- Intel E7221MC Chipset
- 512 MB DDR2 400 ECC Unbuffered Memory (4GB Max)
- Integrated PCI Express X8 Graphics Controller
- Integrated Dual-port Ethernet (10/100 & 1000 MBps)
- 1-channel U320 SCSI Card
- 73GB SCSI HDD
- 52x IDE CDROM Drive & 3.5" 1.44 MB FDD
- PS/2 Keyboard & Mouse

SRP 59,900 Php

High Performance
Acer Altos G520N
- Intel Xeon DP Processor 3.0 GHz, 800MHz FSB. 1MB L2 Cache
- Dual Processor Capable, Intel Hyper-Threading Technology Support
- Extended Memory 64-bit Technology Support
- Intel 7320
- 1G DDR333 (PC2700) ECC Registered Memory (8Gb Max)
- ATI Rage XL w/ 8MB Integrated VRAM Video Card
- Integrated Intel 82541 Gigabit LAN
- 1-channel U320 SCSI Card
- 73GB SCSI Hotplug HDD
- 52x IDE CDROM Drive & 3.5" 1.44 MB FDD
- PS/2 Keyboard & Mouse

SRP 108,000 Php
Free 15" Monitor

Optional Softwares
- The Altos eBusiness Value Pack provides reliable and powerful security management solutions through Computer Associate's ARCserve Backup for Laptops & Desktops (10 user license) and eTrust Antivirus version 7.1 (Server + 10 user license)
- The Acer EasyBUILD software suite empowers end-users to easily install, configure and manage Acer Altos Servers Contains 3 CDs System CD (OS Installation), Management CD (Management Software) and Resource CD (User's Guide, Drivers)

Acer products, prices, specifications and free gifts are subject to change without prior notice. Acer holds no responsibility for errors in typography and/or photography.

Acer Authorized Distributor
AXIS DISTRIBUTION CORPORATED
Axis Distribution Inc.
Suite 1103, Jollibee Plaza Emerald Ave
Ortigas, Pasig City
Tel. 637-9991

Inquire here ACER HOTLINE 815-3388
www.acer.com.ph

acer
Empowering People

Meridian putting up P2-B broadband access infra

By Ronnel W. Domingo

MERIDIAN Telekoms Inc. is investing about P2 billion over a three-year period to establish a nationwide broadband wireless access infrastructure designed to meet the country's demand for high-speed data information.

According to the Department of Trade and Industry, Meridian Telekoms—which has been operating for five years—plans to venture into servicing "last-mile" residential clients.

The BWA that the company plans to set up will provide nationwide data communication services for residential clients.

E-mails and online transaction processing system—such as bills payment, shopping, surfing and information generation—are the most common data applications that subscribers use.

Quoting company estimates, the DTI said the project would create about 300 new jobs.

"The development of a nationwide broadband wireless infrastructure is one of the surest and fastest way of achieving the information and communication technology policy objectives of the government," a DTI official said.

The department welcomed the investment of Meridian, saying this would enhance the IT capability of the country in luring firms engaged in IT and business process outsourcing.

"Our growth in the knowledge economy hinges in the ability of the nation to install modern and cutting-edge technology at the same time equipping the country's workforce with new skills and learning," the official said.

One of Meridian's major stockholders is Smart Communications Inc., which bought 40 percent of the firm last year.

Meridian was granted a legislative franchise under Republic Act No. 8337 to construct, install, establish, maintain, lease and operate wire and/or wireless telecom system throughout the country.

Further, the firm was granted a provisional authority by the National Telecommunications Commission in March 23, 2001 to install and operate a nationwide data leased line.

Official distributor appointed by TOSHIBA Singapore
PRESENTATION Solution CENTER
Introduces the LATEST, MOST UPDATED model of
TOSHIBA MULTIMEDIA PROJECTOR
The First Multimedia Projector with built-in Document Camera

S21
•1400 ANSI LUMENS
•True SVGA resolution
•2000:1 contrast ratio
•w/ detachable document camera

S25
•1800 ANSI LUMENS
•True SVGA resolution
•2000:1 contrast ratio

S80
•2000 ANSI LUMENS
•True SVGA resolution
•2000:1 contrast ratio

S81
•2000 ANSI LUMENS •True SVGA
•2000:1 contrast ratio
•w/ detachable document camera

T90
•2200 ANSI LUMENS
•True XGA resolution
•2000:1 contrast ratio

T91
•2200 ANSI LUMENS
•True XGA resolution
•2000:1 contrast ratio
•w/ detachable document camera

PRESENTATION Solution CENTER
181 R.J. Fernandez St.,
San Juan, Metro Manila
☎ 723-1356 •727-6973
723-6138 •723-6890
SALES RENTALS PARTS SERVICE
DEALERS WELCOME!

Are the Gloria tapes for real?

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES

Honesto C. General

I MUST confess I have paid little attention to the tapes that were supposed to have recorded a conversation between President Arroyo and Election Commissioner Garcillano while the votes in last year's elections were still being counted.

The turmoil resulting from this exposé has rocked the country. Not me. I scan the stories in the daily papers and turn to the comics page. I listen for a while to the TV news and the talk shows. Then, I join my grandson Wacky at the Disney Channel.

The other day, a friend sent me a disc and the transcription of the three-hour chat. I just filed both away.

My position has always been this: until the tapes or discs are verified and authenticated, there is really nothing to talk about.

Besides, I have been suspicious of the fact that, if the conversation took place about a year ago, how come the tapes or discs have surfaced only now?

Let us be clear on one thing at this point: President Arroyo did not authenticate the tape when she apologized. She admitted she phoned a Comelec official. But she did not say that it was her voice on the tape. In fact, she never mentioned the tape.

We should also be leery of anyone, including any character from that university in Diliman, who claims he has authenticated the tapes.

When the news about the tape first broke, ABS-CBN correctly wanted authentication. Jose Mari Gonzalez, who did a wonderful job on the footage on the Ninoy Aquino murder, was asked to analyze the tape.

After running it through his machine, he said it was difficult for anyone to fake the tape because of the background noise. He is woefully behind the times.

My granddaughter DenDen graduated last March from the Ateneo de Naga University. She took up the only four-year college course offered in the country on Digital Illustration and Animation.

DenDen tells me that the technology is now widely available abroad for synthesizing your voice. A conversation can then be invented using your synthetic voice. It will be your voice (synthetic, of course), but not your words, on the tape. And the conversation never took place.

They do this quite often now in the foreign movies. All that is needed is the right equipment and the expertise. This equipment and expertise may already be available at our TV or movie production studios, or at the AFP intelligence service or at the NBI.

The only way to detect the synthetic voice is with another set of equipment and the needed expertise. These are most likely not available here.

It is therefore quite possible that the taped conversation between President Arroyo and Garcillano was synthetic. The voices are theirs (synthetically, that is) but the words are not.

How come the tapes have surfaced only now? Probably because the equipment and the expertise were not available during last year's elections. Or nobody in the opposite side thought about it then.

Since the House is now investigating this controversy in aid of legislation, the five committees might as well join hands in tracking down if the technology to synthesize the tapes is indeed available here. If not, then we should probably ask for foreign technological assistance.

Until the tapes have been authenticated, why don't we all simmer down? After I write this column I shall retire to the dark and friendly confines of my favorite bar and guzzle a couple of beers with my buddies.

Finally, let us have none of this talk about changing the system with a revolutionary transitional government, whatever that mongrel is. It's the silliest thing I've heard in years.

KYOCERA
THE NEW VALUE FRONTIER
THE POWER OF KYOCERA UP FRONT

Departmental
Increase your productivity and exceed your expectations
KM-3035
The KM-3035 is designed for total document management. This comprehensive digital copying system has optional network print, scan and fax capabilities,making it ideal for larger workgroups and departments. Delivering outstanding image quality at 30 outputs per minute, with a full complement of finishing options to serve the needs of large departments with ease.

Personal
High-quality output with remarkable economy
KM-1500
If you would like a reliable digital copier, with an array of options and features usually found on more expensive machines, the KM-1500 is the most cost effective solution for you. Fast and convenient, the KM-1500 copies up to 15cpm (A4) and with its small footprint will fit into practically any location.

Workgroup
Smart and speedy solutions for successful workgroups
KM-1620
Bring the quality and speed of digital laser copying to your office. With its advanced digital features and high paper capacity the KM-1620 is a cost-effective 16cpm desktop copier that is powerful enough to serve your entire workgroup. The KM-1620 offers excellent reliability and outstanding functionality to meet the demanding needs of today's users.

HEAD OFFICE 793 J. P. RIZAL AVE., MAKATI CITY
TEL. # +63 2 899-8625 FAX # +63 2 899-8417
SALES OFFICE 1407 PETRONA 1 BLDG. ANGONO COR. OSMEÑA STS. MAKATI CITY
TEL. # +63 2 899-8421 FAX # +63 2 899-8423
website: www.philcopy.net email: info@philcopy.net

PHILCOPY The Power to Multiply 25 Yrs

METRO MANILA SHOWROOMS :
• SM MEGAMALL TELEFAX # +63 2 635-5934 • SM NORTHMALL TEL. # +63 2 926-8019 • MEDICAL PLAZA TEL. # +63 2.687-2084
• LAS PIÑAS TEL.# +63 2 800-5791 to 93 • SM FAIRVIEW TEL.# +63 2 938 5089

LUZON BRANCHES:
• DAGUPAN TEL. # +63 75 523-1304
• MALOLOS TEL. # +63 44 790-6001
• LIPA TEL. # +63 43 981-4499
• LEGASPI TEL # +63 52 480-9716
• PUERTO PRINCESA TEL. # +63 48 433-7180
• ANGELES TEL. # +63 45 888-3672
• OLONGAPO TEL. # +63 47 223-2391
• LUCENA TEL. NO. # +63 42 660-6451
• NAGA TELEFAX # +63 54 811-7374

VISAYAS BRANCHES:
• CEBU (Mandaue)
TEL. # +63 32 344-7884 TO 88
• ORMOC
TELEFAX # +63 53 255-2956
• TACLOBAN
TELEFAX # +63 53 523-7919
• TAGBILARAN
TELEFAX # +63 38 235-5271

MINDANAO BRANCHES:
• DAVAO TEL. # +63 82 222-4536
• SM DAVAO TEL # +63 82 297-8474
• PAGADIAN TELEFAX # +63 62 214-3577
• CAGAYAN DE ORO - LIMKETKAI TEL. # +63 88 856-5550
• DAVAO - VICTORIA PLAZA TEL # +63 82 222-2177
• ZAMBOANGA TEL. # +63 62 991-3607
• CAGAYAN DE ORO TEL. # +63 88 856-5118
• BUTUAN TEL. # +63 85 342-5572

Specific law to govern pre-need sector sought

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance said it would push for a bill establishing a Pre-Need Code in the second regular session of the 13th Congress, which will open on July 25, as it adopted as a priority agenda the reform of the pre-need industry.

Finance Undersecretary Emmanuel Bonoan said the adoption of a Pre-Need Code to guide the industry was one of the programs of the economic team aimed at developing the country's capital markets.

The pre-need industry has long been in existence, but there is no specific law that governs it. Currently, the pre-need industry is regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission by virtue of a provision of the Securities Regulation Code (SRC).

Section 16 of the SRC states that the SEC has the authority to require pre-need firms to submit disclosure requirements; prescribe advertising guidelines, uniform accounting system, reports and record keeping system; impose capital, bonding and other financial requirements, and require the establishment of trust funds for the payment of benefits.

In the meantime, the Senate committee on banks and financial institution said it would recommend a regulatory reform measure that would strengthen the pre-need industry and safeguard the interest of plan holders.

Sen. Edgardo Angara said this would be aimed not only at preventing a repeat of the crisis that hit the industry, but also at providing the industry relief from the crisis of the moment.

Panalo ka sa kakaibang negosyong ito!
Roland
The No. 1 Choice of Signmakers around the World.
Fastrack to BIG time advertising
SJ745EX
Made in Japan
Billboards
Fleet Graphics
Posters & Outdoor Signs
Banners & Streamers
Tradeshows & Events
Roland Soljet Pro II -EX printers deliver superb graphics fast, your customers will keep coming back.
• prints up to 1440 dpi resolution
• no lamination required unlike with dye-based
• solvent ink costs 80% less than dye ink
• print on various media – tarpaulin, vinyl sticker, photopaper, backlit films, cloth
Exclusive Distributor:
Tgraf TEAM GRAPHICS
Tel: 726-3991 to 98 loc 232, 204, 203
Fax: 723-7951
Email: inquire@tgraf.com.ph
www.tgraf.com.ph
VISIT OUR SHOWROOM!
Come see over 20 business packages
Roland SJ-1000 for Billboard printing, Roland Versacamm for instant sticker & label production, Roland Cutters for vinyl signmaking, Roland EGX for 3D engraving, Roland MDX for prototyping, Roland Metaza for photo-engraving on metals, Javelin printer & CIM embosser for PVC ID card production, LaserPro for laser engraving, Fuji Xerox Phaser color printers for Print-on-Demand, Konica Minolta & Oce for digital press, Word Studio for digital photo enlargements, Xante Impressia & Python for computer-to-plate (CTP), Stampede for computerized rubber stamp-making, Polaroid for Passport ID business, and more. Call us NOW and put yourself in a fresh, new business!

7-ELEVEN Worldwide Commemorates 78th Foundation Day

MESSAGES

Happy Founding Anniversary to Philippine Seven Corporation (7-Eleven) and our affiliate branches worldwide.

We are happy to announce that 7-Eleven's CDI (our local logistics subsidiary) will transfer to a new distribution center in Pasig by end-2005. This new state-of-the-art facility, built to specifications developed in Taiwan, has the capacity to serve 600 stores.

We hope that you will continue to support 7-Eleven, as we are committed to give you quality food and beverage products anytime, anywhere.

James Hsieh
Vice Chairman
Philippine Seven Corporation
Executive Vice President
President Chain Stores Corporation (Taiwan)

Today we join the 28,064 other 7-Elevens in 19 countries around the world in celebrating 7-Eleven Day. At 253 stores, we are among the smaller licensees, but considering our population of 80 million, we're among those with the largest growth potential. Over the last 20 years, we have carefully built our brand and honed our systems; the finishing touch will be the roll-out of point-of-sale (POS) to all stores and the completion of our new distribution facility by the end of the year.

To all our partners – suppliers, franchisees, bankers, and shareholders, we thank you for your trust and support, and we hope to merit it even more in the years ahead. To the over 2 million customers who continue to visit us every week, thank you for considering us for your everyday needs, and we hope to serve you even better in the future.

Vito Paterno

Jose Victor Paterno
President
Philippine Seven Corporation

Let me greet my fellow hardworking executives and employees at Philippine Seven Corporation (7-Eleven) and branches abroad in the special commemoration of our Founding Anniversary worldwide.

In the Philippines, 7-Eleven has branched out into franchising to provide an effective business plan to many Filipino entrepreneurs. We are proud to report that the company has begun its implementation of POS systems.

Through partnerships among franchisees and suppliers, 7-Eleven remains a familiar convenience store chain that is firmly rooted in the life of customers here and abroad.

To all of us at 7-Eleven, more power and God bless!!!

Sam Liu
Vice President
Philippine Seven Corporation

Our corporate history

Philippine Seven Corporation (PSC) was registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in November 1982. It acquired from Southland Corporation (now 7-Eleven Inc.) of Dallas, Texas the license to operate 7-Eleven stores in the Philippines on December 13, 1982. Operations commenced with the opening of its first store on February 29, 1984 at the corner of Kamias Road and EDSA, Quezon City, Metro Manila. Considering the country's economic condition at that time, the company grew slowly in its first year of existence. In 1993, the company was encouraged by the resurgent national economy and stepped up its rate of expansion.

In 1946, 7-Eleven was first known as "Tote'm." 7-Eleven reflected the store's new, extended hours—7 a.m. until 11 p.m., seven days a week.

As of March 2005, PSC's retail chain had grown to 253 stores, with 15 franchise stores, 44 Service Agreement stores and the rest all company-operated. Such an operation is sustained by a manpower complement of 1,640 employees, 987 of whom are regular employees and 653 part-timers engaged in store operations and in various support service units. Inspite of the growing competition in the C-store (Convenience Store) business, the corporation maintains its leadership in the industry.

In the Philippines, 7-Eleven's first ever outlet is located at the corner of Kamias Road and EDSA Quezon City.

7-Eleven today is focused on redefining and enhancing convenience through strategic initiatives designed to take advantage of new technologies and merchandising processes, but remains based on the fundamental principle of the simple business concept it pioneered over 70 years ago—to provide customers an ever changing selection of quality products and services at fair everyday prices, through speedy transactions in a clean, safe and friendly environment.

Since 1965, more than 6 billion Slurpee (dubbed the "coolest drink on earth") drinks have been sold. That is one for almost every single person on the planet.

"Congratulations to 7-Eleven!" -From your business partners

Coca-Cola
Purefoods Hormel Foodservice
Pepsi
Zexus Digital Large Format Printing
San Miguel Corporation
Selecta
Zesto The No. 1 Juice Drink!
Monde Nissin
Unilever
Soupy Snax
Nongshim
Bacchus
TVP Dental·B TVP Dental B Corporation
Gillette The Best A Man Can Get
Paul Masson
Nivea
Pizza Bar
Steamshop Special Siopao
I-On Energy
pH Care
Colgate-Palmolive
Hershey's The Hershey Company
Kodak
Anchor
Johnson & Johnson
ecPay
Gate
Café Puro
West
MicroSep, Inc.
Classic Red Enterprises
Astring-O-sol
GNP
Lipovitan
Drypers
Softee
Sanitary Napkins
Extra

Venture into business with 7-Eleven

For business-minded people, looking for avenues to a good investment is oftentimes difficult. However in recent years, franchising has provided a viable option for many enterprising individuals.

A sterling example of this business venture that you can tap is 7-Eleven's franchising scheme. This global company provides an opportunity for business-minded people to operate their own convenience stores carrying the 7-Eleven brand.

For potential franchisees, 7-Eleven offers a responsible business partner that you can trust.. Backed by a worldwide brand, the company evokes a wholesome image that remains untarnished up to this day. Its retail operating system is well established, with a supplier and distribution network that works round-the-clock. Franchisees are also expected to undergo a tedious training program (as part of the deal) to become familiar with the business. Merchandising assistance as well as advertising and promotional support is also extended by management to further enhance the quality of the flourishing business.

Above all, 7-Eleven emphasizes the importance of going into a "close partnership." This partnership entails sharing in three vital aspects: fixed investments, expenses and resulting gross profit. The franchiser (7-Eleven) contributes the systems, expertise, networks and corporate services. The franchisee, meanwhile, manages the store and runs the business per se. Both the franchiser and franchisee collaborate to generate sales and margins, to guarantee its success. This enables both parties to have a significant stake in the business and brings a mutual responsibility to make it grow.

For consumers here and abroad, 7-Eleven is home to Slurpee®, Gulp®, Hot Cup® and Quick Bites®. It enjoys a strong following among a wider group of customers, 70 percent of which visit the store looking for a quick snack throughout the day.

With over 20 years in the local retail industry, 7-Eleven boasts of 253 stores 24 hours daily. Touted as the "modern sari-sari store," 7-Eleven is an industry leader with a vast array of operations, marketing and technical support systems that are in place to help you grow your business. With a global network that's known the world over, 7-Eleven knows franchising inside and out.

So if you would like to venture into the 7-Eleven business, today is the right time to keep the ball rolling.

Convenience Distribution, Incorporated

CDI was incorporated on September 17, 1998 as a fully owned subsidiary of Philippine Seven Corporation (PSC), the licensee and operator of 7-Eleven stores in the Philippines. It was formed to provide storage and distribution services to PSC.

Room temperature products are delivered from a warehouse located in Libis, Quezon City. Chilled products are delivered seven days a week from a temperature controlled facility in Antipolo, Rizal. No inventory of fresh food is kept in the chilled facility to ensure only the freshest products arrive at the store.

The once serene massive land measuring 1.85 hectares located at F. Legaspi Street near corner C. Raymundo Avenue, Manggahan, Pasig City will soon turn into a busy 24-hour business center as it will be the site of CDI's build-to-suit warehouse. With the ground breaking ceremony held last February 18, 2005, this move is believed to be 7-Eleven's formidable strategy for the future.

Here's an investment that never sleeps.
ELEVEN
For franchise inquiries please call 726-9968 or 705-5212.
www.7-eleven.com.ph

E-mail: pr_info_tech@inquirer.com.ph

INFOTECH

Text us your feedback: inquirer it name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Editor **Leo Magno**

THE SEARCH IS ON FOR

Franchise Excellence Awards 2005

Galing Pinoy. Beyond Boundaries

CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

- Outstanding Filipino Franchise of the Year -
(one winner each in food, retail, service & kiosks)
• Must be homegrown in concept and originally incorporated in the Philippines.
• Minimum of five (5) years in franchise operations.

- International Master Franchise of the Year -
(one winner each in food, retail, service & kiosks)
• Minimum of five (5) years in franchise operations in the Philippines
• The master franchisor must also have five (5) years franchise operations from the country of origin.
• The company must have a stable, credible & excellent reputation both here & abroad

- Most Promising Filipino Franchise of the Year -
(one winner each in food, retail, service & kiosks)
• Must be homegrown in concept and originally incorporated in the Philippines.
• Minimum of three (3) years in existence and two (2) successful years in franchise operations.

- Franchise Marketing Campaign of the Year -
(one winner each in food, retail, service & kiosks)
• Minimum of three (3) years in franchise operations
• The company must have a successful and effective franchise marketing program that contributed significantly to the franchise growth of the company and to the advancement of the franchising industry.

- Franchisee of the Year -
(one winner each in food, retail, service & kiosks)
• Open to all franchisees with single or multiple outlets with a nominating franchisor
• Minimum of two (2) consecutive years in franchise operations.

Deadline for submission of nominees is on July 30, 2005

A joint venture by Philippine Franchise Association & dti

FEA 2005 is sponsored and supported by Inquirer, Philippine Retailers Association, Philippine Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Join the Biggest Franchise Event of the Year!

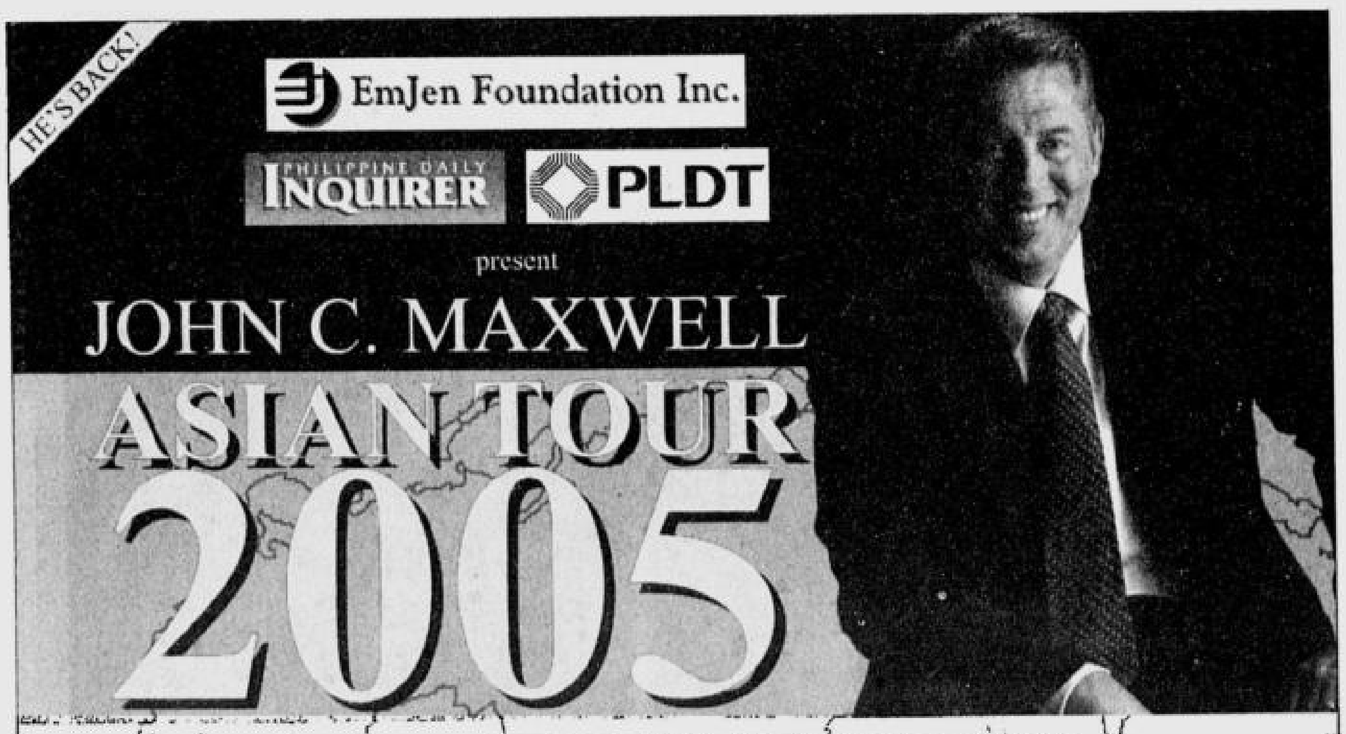
FRANCHISE 2005
Philippine International Franchise Conference & Expo
ACHIEVE DREAMS & BEYOND

CONFERENCE
July 14 – 15, 2005
The Westin Philippine Plaza

EXPO
July 15 - 17, 2005
World Trade Center Metro Manila

CERTIFIED FRANCHISE EXECUTIVE PROGRAM
July 12 – 13, 2005
Asian Institute of Management

FOR MORE INQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT:
Philippine Franchise Association
Unit 701 One Magnificent Mile (OMM Citra), San Miguel Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel Nos: 687-0365 to 67 Fax No: 687-0635
E-mail: pfa@nwave. net www. philippinefranchiseassociation.com



MOTIVATIONAL LEADERSHIP & REAL SUCCESS SEMINARS

YOUR ROADMAP FOR SUCCESS
Friday, July 22, 2005, 6:00 PM to 9:30 PM, Araneta Coliseum

Who should attend this seminar?
Corporate executives, young professionals, business leaders, students, government employees, non-government organizations.

What is this seminar about?
You will discover that success is found on the well-traveled journey, not at a destination.

Defining success is a difficult task. Most people equate it with wealth, power and happiness. However, true success is something you do not acquire or achieve. Rather, it is a journey you take your whole life long.

In a refreshingly straight-forward style, Dr. John Maxwell shares unique insights into what it means to be successful.

DEVELOPING THE LEADERS AROUND YOU
Saturday, July 23, 2005, 8:00 AM to 12:00 NN, ALIW Theater, CCP Complex

Who should attend this seminar?
CEOs, Senior Management, business owners and entrepreneurs, government officials and leaders.

What is this seminar about?
Supremely practical, this seminar is about strategies that help you effectively transform your dreams into reality by building up your people. Emphasizing that your organization can't grow unless its members grow, Dr. John Maxwell encourages you to identify and train potential leaders. You'll learn how to foster productive team spirit, make difficult decisions, what to look for in promising leaders, ways to nurture, encourage and equip people, how to handle confrontation and much more.

WINNING WITH PEOPLE
Saturday, July 23, 2005, 1:30 PM to 5:30 PM, ALIW Theater, CCP Complex

Who should attend this seminar?
CEOs, Senior Management, business owners and entrepreneurs, government officials and leaders.

What is this seminar about?
Successful CEOs, entrepreneurs, top salespeople all agree: the characteristic most needed for success in leadership positions is the ability to work with people.

Some people are born with great relationship skills, but those who are not can learn to improve them. In Winning With People, John Maxwell has translated decades of experience into People Principles that anyone can learn.

Some principles are intuitive, such as the Lens Principle: Who We Are Determines How We See Others. Others principles may go against your instincts, such as The Confrontation Principle: Caring For People Should Precede Confronting People. All of them are 100% practical!

For inquiries and ticket reservations, please visit **johnmaxwell.emjen.org** or call **885-7049** (free delivery). Tickets are also available at all **SM-Ticketnet** outlets located at the SM Department Store Customer Service area and at the Araneta Coliseum ticket booths. For inquiries and reservations, please call 911-5555.

MAJOR SPONSORS: ANC, Star Trans International Logistics Inc., Word of Hope

EVENT PARTNERS: ALIW, Ticketnet

Business needs stable political climate: Oracle executives

Erwin Oliva
Contributor

BAGUIO CITY—Philippine executives of software giant Oracle acknowledged that the company needs a stable political environment for its business to thrive.

Yashi Kant, managing director of Oracle Philippines, said the software company was concerned with recent political developments in the country but indicated that it is business as usual.

"Any business needs political stability. That's what we need," Kant said when asked to react to the crisis being experienced by President Macapagal-Arroyo's administration.

Kant said the software company remains optimistic, and expects its business in the country to continue, saying opportunities are out there for companies like Oracle.

Oracle indicated though, that the recent en masse resignation of Cabinet officials and the administrative shakeup, will affect e-governance projects the software vendor has with certain Philippine agencies.

"Of course, we will again be dealing with a new set of government heads following the Cabinet shakeup," added Ma. Angelica Rapadas, senior director of delivery quality of Oracle Consulting Services in Asia Pacific.

Oracle last year established an e-government center of excellence in cooperation with the National Computer Center, Hewlett Packard and Red Hat.

The $2.2-million center is designed to work on open source applications for government use.

"Oracle Corp. is committed to and we will continue to invest in the Philippines," said Kant. "We believe the government sector offers fair amount of opportunity. There's a need to improve government services using technology."

Meanwhile, Oracle Philippines announced that Davao Light and Power Company Inc., the biggest electricity distributor in Mindanao, went live with Oracle's E-Business suite 11i recently, Kant said.

Davao Light, a subsidiary of the Aboitiz Power Corp., has been using Oracle database for six years but has used in-house developed systems to run key business applications.

With the passage of the Electric Power Industry Reform Act, electric companies were mandated to "unbundle business activities." The law also forced electric companies to rework their business processes.

Davao Light, Oracle said, implemented the "accounting to financial reports" and "procure to pay business flows" of the Oracle Business Suite.

Davao Light deployed Oracle's general ledger, accounts payable, fixed assets, purchasing, inventory and costing. The company has also integrated the Oracle Business suite with its own fleet management and standard work order management systems.

The Oracle Business suite will be rolled out soon to sister firms of Davao Light. Including Cotabato Light, Subic Enerzone and Visayan Electric Company, Oracle said.

Oracle Corp. ended fiscal year 2005 (ended May 2005) with $11.8 billion in revenues, and $2.9 billion in net income.

The new database and middleware license revenue reached $3.3 billion, while its application license revenues hit $785 million. Service revenues, on the other end, reached $2.4 billion.

In Asia Pacific, Oracle's revenue hit $540 million, a 22 percent growth compared with fiscal year 2004.

Kant declined to give specific details for the Philippine business.

He, however, stressed that Oracle will go after the mid-market segment, a company with 100 to 500 employees, this year.

Among the recent mid-market wins of Oracle were Henlin (M&H Food Corp.), Oddysey Records and Max's Fried Chicken.

Oracle has also been aggressively pushing its consulting services in the Philippines. Among its clients are Jolibee, Davao Light, Asian Development Bank, among others.

The software giant's biggest customers include Philippine Airlines, SM Group, PLDT, Smart, Globe, Landbank of the Philippines, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Social Security System, Mirant, WG&A, International Wiring Systems Philippines Corp., Aboitiz Group, GMA Network, Philippine National Bank, Metrobank, Bank of the Philippine Islands, Tropicana and De La Salle University.

Unionbank junks mainframe for Sun, Finacle system

By Erwin Oliva
Contributor

UNIONBANK of the Philippines has junked its mainframe system for a Sun Microsystems-Infosys Finacle based system, the largest and first-ever migration of a local bank from a legacy system to Solaris.

Implemented in over 100 branches of the local bank in 10 months, the migration is tagged as the "first successful mainframe migration among local financial institutions," according to Salvador Aque, senior vice president of TIM Corp., system integrator of this major project, in a briefing.

Justo Ortiz, Unionbank chair and chief executive officer, said the decision to migrate to Solaris would initially save the bank overall cost.

"Overall cost will not go down but this core banking solution will reduce our cost as we scale up," Ortiz said.

Calling the implementation process a "big bang," Ortiz said the new system would allow Unionbank to introduce enhancements to their card-based products, Internet banking, and e-commerce for corporate clients. Overall, the bank's junking of its legacy system will allow the institution to be less centered on products and more centered on its customers, he said.

Unionbank entered into a partnership with Infosys through its local partner TIM Corp. on July 2004. The migration was completed in April 2005.

The Infosys Finacle core banking solution that replaced the mainframe system is now available in 110 branches, with over 700 users logging in concurrently.

The new system will eventually allow the bank to customize services to "smaller customers," Ortiz said.

Unionbank expects to increase its revenues from newer products with this new system.

"We had 25 percent of revenues coming from three-year-old products before. Three years ago, it went down to 22 percent, then 15 percent. I believe the competitive space for banks right now is innovation," Ortiz added.

Unionbank has junked its IBM mainframe and Systematix core banking software, according to Ortiz. He declined to disclose the total investment for the new system.

3G rules out this year, says NTC

By Erwin Oliva
Contributor

THE RULES on third generation (3G) mobile telecommunications services will be out this year, National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) officials said.

This is expected to happen despite the strong opposition from incumbent mobile operators who have been insisting that the Philippine market is not yet ready, according to NTC Chair Ronald Solis and Deputy Commissioner Jorge Sarmiento in separate interviews.

While it is still working on refining the rules according to additional inputs from various stakeholders, the NTC officials are optimistic that the 3G rules will be issued within 2005, allowing the country to catch up with other countries in the region already deploying 3G.

"I believe the local industry is prepared for this. We think they are just delaying it," Sarmiento said during a public hearing on 3G.

Solis, for his part, stressed that the incumbent operators have a big headstart over new players planning to enter the Philippine 3G market.

"The new entrants don't have the necessary civil works to roll out a network quickly unlike the incumbents," he added.

Solis said that the NTC is giving 3G licensees a two-year deadline to roll out commercial networks after they're granted licenses. But he expects competition to accelerate commercial rollout.

At least two companies have applied for 3G licenses with the NTC prior to the issuance of its rules, Sarmiento said. The NTC is granting 3G licenses to five players, according to its draft revised rules.

A local firm called Cure and Multimedia Telephony have applied for 3G licenses with the NTC.

During the public hearing, legal counsels of Globe Telecom and Smart Communications continued to express their opposition to the 3G rules.

Smart lawyer Rogelio Quevedo insisted there is still no proven business case for 3G.

"Can NTC identify a 3G operator that has posted profit?" he posed further. "The Philippines is a poor country that cannot afford 3G."

Representatives from several vendors were present at the hearing. Seen attending the hearing were officials of Chinese vendor Huawei, Nokia, Ericsson and Qualcomm.

Platinum to move into marketing operations

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

EMBATTLED pre-need firm Platinum Plans Phils. Inc. said it planned to transform itself into a marketing company should its rehabilitation succeed.

In a petition with the Makati Regional Trial Court, Platinum said that it would move into the distribution of products and services of other companies, including credit cards, personal loans and health-related programs.

Platinum said commissions from the marketing operations would be used to meet future obligations to plan holders worth an estimated P300 million.

The pre-need firm was also looking at selling non-performing assets, including a piece of property worth around P2.2 billion.

Platinum Plans last week filed a petition for suspension of payments of debts and tuition obligations due to financial difficulties.

Platinum Plans, with over 37,000 plan holders, is the second pre-need firm to ask for court protection this year. In April, Pacific Plans Inc. of the Yuchengco group filed for rehabilitation with the Makati court.

It said that it could not pay future claims because school fees increased so much after the government removed the 10-percent cap on tuition hikes in 1990.

Platinum Plans, majority-owned by the Salas family headed by former banker Ernesto Salas, had its license to sell fixed-value and open-ended education plans suspended this year.

Platinum has a trust fund deficit of more than P100 million.

In its petition, Platinum asked the court to suspend all claims that would be filed against it and its guarantors. It said it could settle only up to P75 million of its maturing obligations to plan holders.

It has also asked the court to appoint a rehabilitation receiver.

Under its proposed 8-year rehabilitation plan, Platinum asked the court to allow the reduction in bank interest rates of creditors from a minimum of 12 percent a year to 8 percent.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), meanwhile, said the case of Platinum Plans was out of its hands.

SEC officials also said the SEC was waiting for the Makati RTC's order for it to issue its comments on the case.

"When a company is experiencing this type of trouble, it has options to take and it is within its right to take those options," SEC commission secretary Gerard Lukban said.

Platinum was organized in 1983 as Children's Investment for Lifetime Development Corp. to sell education plans. It changed its name to Platinum Plans in 1990.

It stopped selling traditional open-ended education plans in 1993 and shifted to fixed value education plans. Revenues soared to P553 million in 2003 from P28 million in 1989. It also expanded its distribution network to 132 branches.

Platinum said that in 2004, revenues plunged to P363 million as confidence in the industry was affected by the financial problems of pre-need giants like College Assurance Plan Philippines Inc.

Learn how to do business in this BILLION DOLLAR INDUSTRY!

Special Seminar on Understanding the
MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTION SERVICE
Outsourcing Business
July 14 - 16, 2005

From the ITO Group
- #1 in medical transcription training and development with 14 MT Training locations nationwide
- #1 manufacturer of medical transcription production equipment
- The fastest growing MT service organization network in the country

Overview: This 3-day seminar is designed for entrepreneurs and professionals who are interested in venturing into the Medical Transcription Service Outsourcing Business.

The program consists of the following modules:
1. Introduction to Medical Transcription (MT)
2. Offshore MT Industry and Market Assessment
3. MT Industry in the Philippines - An Outlook
4. General Legal Issues for MT Companies (HIPAA)
5. Marketing the Service (Tricks of the Trade)
6. Quality and Productivity for MT Companies
7. Process and Delivery for MT Companies
8. Resource Requirements
9. Manpower Requirements
10. Supply Consolidation - MT in a BOX
11. Successful HR Management
12. Financial Management for Local MT Production

SAVE MILLIONS OF PESOS IN CAPITAL!
Back Due to Insistent Public Demand!
Register Now!
LIMITED SLOTS ONLY!

MTC Academy G/F Urban Bldg. 405 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Bel-Air, Makati City
890-7319 / 72 896-9933 www.mtcacademy.com admin@mtcacademy.com

FUJI XEROX SUPER SPREE

BUY 1 TAKE 1!
PHASER 3116
DocuPrint C525
Colour Laser Printer
(w/ Built-in network card)
+
FREE
NEW! 25ppm
ONLY Php 30,000

Get the best printers at the best value only from the pioneer in laser printing technology.
Because, with Fuji Xerox Printers, you can expect more.

KEY FEATURES	Phaser 3116 Mono	DocuPrint 240 Mono	DocuPrint C525 Colour	DocuPrint 205 Mono	Phaser 6250 Colour	Phaser 5500 Mono	Phaser 7300 Colour
Paper Size	A4	A4	A4	A3	A4	A3	Up to 12 x 36 in.
Print Speed	14 ppm	24 ppm	26 ppm	20 ppm	24 ppm	50 ppm	37 ppm
Resolution	600 x 600 dpi	1200 x 1200 dpi	9600 X 9600 dpi	1200 x 1200 dpi	2400 x 600 dpi	1200 x 1200 dpi	2400 dpi
Memory	8 MB	64 MB	64 MB	64 MB	256 MB	128 MB	192 MB
Duty Cycle	15,000 pp/mo.	75,000 pp/mo.	45,000 pp/mo	50,000 pp/mo.	100,000 pp/mo.	300,000 pp/mo.	83,000 pp/mo.
Network	None	Built-in	Built-in	Built-in	Built-in	Built-in	Built-in
Duplex	None	Optional	Optional	Optional	Yes	Yes	Yes
Postscript	None	Optional	None	Optional	Yes	Yes	Yes
SRP	P 5,000	P 28,000	P 30,000	P 43,000	P 99,000	P 239,000	P 288,000

So, get wise! Get a Fuji Xerox Laser Printer now!
Call us for free demo at 723-0601 or email: inquire@ati.com.ph.
Promo period is from July 11 to August 22, 2005.

THE DOCUMENT COMPANY
FUJI XEROX

Distributor and Service Provider:
better solutions
AMERICAN TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
www.ati.com.ph • email: inquire@ati.com.ph • Fax: 723-7951
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A3-518, Series of 2005

An inspired fusion of form and function

Let the CRDi **DIESEL** technology change the way you look at 4x4 SUVs.

Introducing
TUCSON CRDi Diesel Engineality

The CRDi Turbo Intercooler diesel engine consumes less fuel yet provides more power and torque at low speeds without noise and vibrations.

Utmost driver protection with Driver Side SRS Airbags.

Full fold-flat rear seats give you extra cargo space.

- Traction Control System (TCS) automatically adjusts engine torque for optimal control when needed.
- 4x4 performance with sedan-like fuel efficiency with the Electronic 4WD.
- Anti-lock Braking System ensures superior braking control even on slippery surfaces.

Authorized HARI dealers:
HYUNDAI ALABANG - Tel. Nos.: (02) 800-1771, (02) 800-7344 • **HYUNDAI COMMONWEALTH** - Tel. Nos.: (02) 951-2201 to 10, (02) 951-2930 • **HYUNDAI E. RODRIGUEZ SR. AVE.** - Tel. Nos.: (02) 722-0932, (02) 722-0936 to 37, (02) 727-6394, (02) 413-1848 • **HYUNDAI EDSA** - Tel. Nos.: (02) 882-2433, (02) 882-2432, (02) 882-2568 • **HYUNDAI MAKATI** Tel. Nos.: (02) 830-0013 to 17 • **HYUNDAI ORTIGAS** - Tel. Nos.: (02) 723-9101 to 07 • **HYUNDAI QUEZON AVENUE** - Tel. Nos.: (02) 374-3911, (02) 411-2720 • **HYUNDAI BACOLOD** - Tel. Nos.: (034) 433-3510, (034) 435-0288, (034) 434-2907, (034) 435-3888, (034) 434-8051 to 52 • **HYUNDAI CABANATUAN** - Tel. Nos.: (044) 464-2878, (044) 600-1657, (044) 463-5428, (044) 600-1737 • **HYUNDAI CAGAYAN DE ORO** - Tel. Nos.: (088) 855-4406 to 07 • **HYUNDAI CEBU** - Tel. Nos.: (032) 346-2724, (032) 346-0187, (032) 345-4146, (032) 345-0324 • **HYUNDAI DAGUPAN** - Tel. No.: (075) 522-8888, Fax No.: (075) 515-2255 • **HYUNDAI ILOILO** - Tel. Nos.: (033) 320-7020, (033) 508-8878, (033) 320-4186, (033) 320-2069, (033) 320-2248 • **HYUNDAI LA UNION** - Tel. Nos.: (072) 712-1212, (072) 712-8887 to 89, 0922-3102310 • **HYUNDAI LAGUNA** - Tel. Nos.: (049) 411-5650, (049) 511-8161, (02) 520-8211, (02) 520-8250 • **HYUNDAI PAMPANGA** - Tel. Nos.: (045) 961-1184, (045) 961-3977 • **HYUNDAI SOUTHERN MINDANAO** - Tel. Nos.: (082) 235-2955, (082) 305-0000, (082) 345-2118 • Soon to open: **HYUNDAI BALINTAWAK and HYUNDAI CAVITE (DASMARIÑAS)**

Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc. (HARI) is the exclusive distributor of Hyundai vehicles and Hyundai MOBIS parts in the Philippines.

HYUNDAI
Drive your way.

People, Events & Products

E-mail: pr_pep@inquirer.com.ph
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Aries Espinosa**

Unilab gets int'l citation for learning tech

PHARMACEUTICAL leader United Laboratories Inc (Unilab) was recently conferred the Excellence in Practice Citation for Learning Technologies by the American Society for Training and Development (ASTD) for its Unilab Learning Exchange Portal (ULearn), a computer-based training facility. ASTD is a prestigious international organization of some 70,000 training and development professionals from more than 100 countries and institutions worldwide.

Unilab is one of only 16 companies that were given recognition out of 82 entries from different countries worldwide, joining an elite roster of institutions that have received the same award: Hewlett-Packard Company, IBM Corp and Lifescan Inc, a Johnson&Johnson company, to name a few.

Unilab chair Jocelyn Campos-Hess received the plaque of recognition from Rita Bailey, chair of the ASTD board of directors. Campos was joined by president and CEO Carlos C. Ejercito, corporate VP for organization development Imelda H. Centeno and Elisa Yee, training officer. The awarding ceremony was held at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida June 6, during the 2nd general session of the ASTD 2005 International Conference and Exposition.

Unilab's ULearn facility was specifically cited as a good example of an open, self-directed computer-based motivational tool that helps employees improve their knowledge and skills needed to better deliver results. It is being integrated into the overall corporate training strategy and serves as a springboard to launch new organizational initiatives. The intervention was developed in 2001 to strengthen the training of the Unilab workforce, half of whom are geographically dispersed. With ULearn, employees can enroll in online training courses that help them improve their competencies in the comfort of their own offices.

This new international citation reaffirms Unilab's commitment to improving organizational competency through a highly trained workforce and validates the philosophy that as the leader in the local industry, Unilab's technology is and should be world-class.

CHAIR Jocelyn Campos-Hess receives the Excellence in Practice Citation for Learning Technologies from the American Society for Training and Development (ASTD) during the awarding ceremony held at Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida. Also shown during the awarding ceremony are (from left): Kevin Oakes, ASTD chair-elect of the board; Rita Bailey, ASTD chair of the board; president and CEO Carlos C. Ejercito; CVD-OD Imelda H. Centeno; Elisa Yee of OD and Tony Bingham, ASTD president and CEO.

ABBOTT LAUNCHES TARKA IN SYMPOSIUM, TALK SHOW

Abbott Laboratories has just launched the fixed-dose combination of verapamil and trandolapril (Tarka), a prescription medicine antihypertensive for pre-diabetic and diabetic hypertensive patients. In a recent scientific symposium marking the launch of the medicine, noted cardiologists Drs Ramon Abarquez Jr, Joel Abanilla, Jane Galang, Loewe Go, and Roberto Yabut and nephrologists Dr. Helen Ocdol gave their insights on the features and benefits of the drug, citing several clinical trials, especially the landmark trials Invest and Benedict. The cardiovascular talk show had Dr. Rafael Castillo and Dr. May Ann Lao as facilitators. Shown are, from left, Abanilla, Ocdol, Galang, Gemma Llamado, group product manager, Abbott Laboratories, Dr. Rebecca Castillo, Castillo, Lao, Yabut, Abarquez, Go with Hudson Pelayo and Roberto Taboada (product manager and business unit director, Abbott Laboratories). Participants to the launch were treated to an evening of Turkish-inspired motif.

New pill treats adult acne

STUDIES show that adolescents are not the only ones that suffer from acne. In a study published in the Journal Academy of Dermatology, 54 percent of women between ages 25 and 58 suffered some form of acne and the prevalence did not decrease substantially until after age 44. Management for acne has centered on either non-prescription treatments like cleansers and astringents or prescription medications such as antibiotics and retinoids, in oral or topical form. Although these preparations have proven effective, there are cases wherein some patients will not respond or will develop resistance to these therapies. For these patients, hormonal therapy thus becomes an important option. Hormonal therapy for acne includes antiandrogens or oral contraceptives.

Acne is multi-factorial, however. It is basically a manifestation of increased levels of androgens-a major hormone in males but normally present in small amounts in women. With the use of combined oral contraceptives or low dose pills as treatment for acne, a balance has to be achieved between the estrogenic and the androgenic effects of the progestogens. A combiphasic contraceptive pill that contains both estrogen (ethinylestradiol) and progestogen (desogestrel) has been proven to be an effective treatment for mild to moderate acne. A study conducted by Vartiainen, et al showed that this unique combiphasic pill reduced the number and severity of acne lesions over 6 cycles. This combiphasic pill provides two different doses of the hormones in one cycle, which closely resembles a woman's normal menstrual cycle and, thus, also establishes or maintains the normal monthly bleeding pattern.

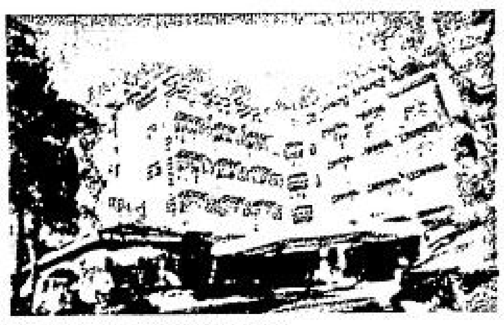
"This combiphasic pill offers another non-contraceptive health benefit. Now, women can look forward to both having clear skin and avoiding an unplanned pregnancy," said obstetrician and gynecologist Dr. Sylvia Santos. For more information, consult your doctor or call 817-7638, or e-mail gracial@organon.ph.

WTCMM, WALLS IN MOTION CONTRACT SIGNING

Manila Exposition Complex Inc contracted Walls in Motion to supply and install the Dorma Huppe Operable Wall System in the World Trade Center Metro Manila exhibition hall to meet its increasing requirements for multiple venues running at the same time. This will give WTCMM increased flexibility for the organizers and maintain its competitiveness in the exhibition hall industry. For smaller exhibitions the organizer only has to activate the actually needed space of the hall, instead of equipping, cooling, cleaning and maintaining the entire space. Signing the contract are (from left): Aurora A. Nuqui, vice president, MEC; Rommel M. Leuterio, senior managing director, MEC; Melanie de Leon, president, WINM, and David A. Kulseth, executive vice president, operations WINM. Standing (from left) are: engineer Jaime G. Velasquez, senior manager, MEC; and Salvi A. Eugenio, product manager, WINM.

Not your usual Baguio hotel

THE NEWLY opened Hotel Elizabeth, a Mediterranean-style boutique hotel with the amenities and personalized service of a luxurious hotel, is giving a whopping 30-percent discount to visitors who will avail themselves of its de luxe rooms good for two persons. Room features include a 21-inch cable TV, ceiling fan, mini bar refrigerator, electronic safety deposit box, hot and cold shower, and hair dryer, among others.



THE HOTEL Elizabeth façade.

The executive suite has a kitchenette with microwave oven and refrigerator, dining room, living room with sofa and bed, cable TV, and hot and cold shower. Or, for a more luxurious stay, guests may try the penthouse, a 3-bedroom unit with complete amenities.

The refreshing scent of robust, towering pine trees will welcome guests as they head toward the hotel, which is on Gibraltar Road passing Wright Park. Its location is strategic for its proximity to key tourist destinations like Wright Park, Camp John Hay, and the Good Shepherd Convent.

The hotel's charming and intricate interiors were done by Inquirer Lifestyle columnist Tessa Prieto-Valdes, with the Mediterranean frescoes and murals done by artist Alfred Galvez. In Tessa's own words: "no traditional log cabin designs."

The hotel's garden is just as beautiful, featuring the natural beauty of flowers and the lush greenery that the City of Pines is known for.

Reservations at Hotel Elizabeth can be coursed through (6374)-4467650, (6374)-6190367, or at its reservation office at 441-5054 or 426-7308 local 103 and 116.

FINALISTS GEAR UP FOR WELLA TREND VISION AWARD 2005

Wella, the world leader in professional hair products, is all set for the staging of the Trend Vision Award 2005 at the ballroom of the Shangri-La Hotel Makati on July 12 at 6 p.m. The event offers young hairdressers the opportunity to show their potential as hair artists by creating their personal interpretation of the current trends based on the Wella Trend Vision concepts. There will be 14 teams chosen as finalists competing during the awards night. They will each interpret one of the four trend concepts from Wella this year: Being Naïve, Being Rebellious, Being in Love, and Being Constructive. The winning team will have the honor of representing the Philippines in the International Wella Trend Vision Award at the ExCel exhibition center in London, England on Oct. 22. Shown seated, from left, are finalists Limuel dela Luna, Manuel Majarucon, Michael Bernardino and Enji Dobluis. Second row, standing from left, are Maricel Mercado, Alvin Gonzaga, Bernard Tomagan, Sherwin Hermosura, Remyr de Guzman, Lourd Ryan Ramos and Rita Veluz. Third row, standing, are Abel Pineda, Rolan Quizon and Glen Roxas.

Abap Bookfair

57 BOOTHS will be displaying the latest, relevant, quality and fairly priced books on varied topics at the 9th Philippine Academic Bookfair from July 11 to 15, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the PTA Tent-Clamshell 2, General Luna Street, Intramuros, Manila. Anchored on the theme "Promoting Book Reading For Global Competitiveness", the bookfair is being organized by the Association of Booksellers for the Academe and the Professions (Abap) in cooperation with the Philippine Tourism Authority (PTA). For inquiries, call Abap at 927-9858 (Jenny) or 925-4572 (Lydia).

RCBC's 'Driven'

WITH RCBC's 'Driven' Promo, you have a chance to get more from your savings. No entry forms, no texting of entries, no confusing mechanics. A lucky grand prize winner in the grand draw will take home a brand-new Isuzu Trooper while four more from the regions of Metro Manila, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will each win P1 million in this offering that lasts from February until September this year. Other Honda and Isuzu vehicles are at stake in the six monthly draws in the national level while similar draws in the regional level offer various lifestyle showcases and cash prizes worth up to P150,000 each. The Driven promo is open to individual depositors of RCBC and RCBC Savings Bank with regular savings and checking accounts, and investors of the newly launched Unit Investment Trust Funds (UITFs). Call 894-9577 or visit www.rcbc.com.

'Gantimpala wants you'

ON ITS 28th season, Gantimpala Theater Foundation (GTF) invites students and young professionals to join the GTF Ushering Team. A seminar/screening of applicants is scheduled on July 13 and 14, 1 to 4 p.m., at the GTF Office, 2nd floor Open Air Auditorium, Luneta, Manila. As part of the team, they will be responsible for assisting audiences in the chain of venues of the Gantimpala plays located in Manila, Quezon City, Muntinlupa City and Las Piñas City. Those interested can call 844-3861 or 0917-4860996 and look for Donnah Alcantara, or 536-5860 or 528-0603 and look for Alwin Ignacio.

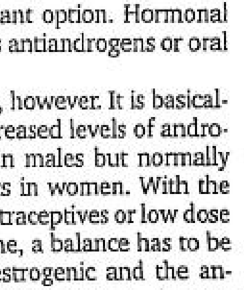
New Level Up! loyalty program

LEVEL Up! is launching its Café Get Member Program, a loyalty program especially for patrons of the hottest MMORPG Ragnarok Online. Internet cafés can join the reward program and instantly get free Ragnarok e-PINs and the chance to win high spec computers and DSL subscriptions. All they have to do is invite new players to sign up for Ragnarok Online game accounts. For every P1,000 accumulated top ups from their network of new players, they get a P50 e-PIN. Call Level Up! at 751-9600 local 144. At the end of the program on Nov. 30, 2 i-cafés will win one year DSL subscriptions and 6 months subscriptions for 3. For more information, visit www.levelupgames.ph

ProductFILES

Security, comfort in Greenhills

NESTLED in the bustling heart of Annapolis, Greenhills, San Juan, is the Swire Elan Suites-a 36-story residential condominium building uniquely designed for residence.



The Swire Elan Suites features facilities of a spacious lobby, a child care center, indoor playground, coffee shop/restaurant, parking spaces, sauna, massage/spa, poolside, bar and grill, cable TV, laundry, fitness center, game room, function rooms and viewing deck. It is equipped with five high-speed guest elevators and one service elevator, standby generator, ultra sensitive security devices and cameras and a 24-hour security service. Parking slots are plentiful at basement levels.

Completion date of the building is set in the last quarter of 2005. Model residential units are open for viewing daily. The residential lobby will be opened in August. For inquiries, visit Swire Elan Suites at 49 Annapolis Street, Greenhills (fronting Greenhills Shopping Center), San Juan, or call 723-0566 or log on to www.swireland.com.ph or e-mail info@swireland.com.ph.

Globelines launches wireless broadband Internet access in Boracay

GLOBELINES, Innove Communication Inc's brand for residential and business customers, brings wireless broadband Internet access to one of the country's top travel destinations by foreign and Filipino tourists-Boracay Island.

Globelines Broadband, Innove's breakthrough business, now powers the entire island and enables its tourists and locals to get high-speed Internet connection while enjoying the beautiful beaches of Boracay.

Jose Antonio T. Mapa Jr, Globelines marketing head, said the rollout of wireless broadband connection in Boracay is part of Innove's aim to ignite a broadband revolution in the country and speed up the adoption of this technology in the Philippines.

"We want to make broadband available anywhere in the Philippines and the Internet accessible at anytime. With Wi-Fi access now available in Boracay, Globelines has made it possible for beachgoers to enjoy the crystal blue waters and white sand that the island has been known for and at the same time stay connected via the Internet," Mapa said.

Globelines launched its wireless broadband access in Boracay May 7 and 8 at the Boracay Regency Gazebo and it offered the service for free for two months.

"At this stage we are testing the feasibility of wireless broadband Internet connection in Boracay. If this is successful, we will continue to provide this service enabling businesses and tourists to experience high-speed Internet access on the island," Mapa said.

For the best quality surfing experience, Boracay tourists, residents and businesses can go to the following: Paradise Garden Resort Hotel, La Carmela de Boracay Resort Hotel, Boracay Beach Chalets, Boracay Regency Beach Resort, Le Soleil de Boracay, Mango-Ray Resort, Red Coconut Beach Resort, Crystal Sand Beach Resort, Boracay Plaza Resort, Pearl of the Pacific, Fridays Boracay, and Villa Camilla.

Globelines partnered with Nortel Networks, Aperto Networks and Airspan Communications Limited, which provided the equipment, to turn Boracay Island into a wireless broadband zone.

GLOBELINES brand manager James Lim shows two lady tourists that they can browse the Web using an iPAQ powered by wireless broadband.

MAX'S FRANCHISING SUPPORTS FRANCHISE 2005

Max's Franchising Inc confirms its silver partnership with the Philippine Franchise Association (PFA) for the staging of Franchise 2005, the Philippine International Franchise Conference and Expo (Pifce) on July 14 and 15 (Conference) at the Westin Philippine Plaza, July 15 to 17 (Expo) at the World Trade Center; and July 12 and 13 for the Certified Franchise Executive (CFE) Program at the Asian Institute of Management (AIM). Seated, from left, are Robert Trota, president of Max's Franchising Inc and Elizabeth Orbeta (Wendy's), Franchise 2005 overall chair. Witnessing the event are (from left) Terry Yap (Golden Arches Development Corp), conference chair, Lin Deres (Goldilocks), Expo co-chair, and Vince Padilla (Padi's Point), Franchise 2005 over-all co-chair. Pifce is the annual franchise event organized by the PFA that aims to promote the growth of the franchising industry in the country.

Power firm's environmental performance cited

A LOCAL leader has cited the environmental performance of Mirant Philippines' 1,200-megawatt clean coal facility in Sual, Pangasinan, stressing that the plant has operated in a clean, efficient and responsible manner.

"Apart from contributing to giving income and employment opportunities to Pangasinan residents, plant operations have had no adverse effect on our communities and the environment. It has operated in a clean and efficient manner, with no major untoward incident," said Dionisio Caburao Sr, president of the Association of Barangay Captains (ABC) in Sual.

Caburao is also Barangay Captain of Barangay Pangascasan, the host barangay of Mirant's Sual power plant. He stressed that close monitoring of the environment between Mirant, the local and national government and non-government organizations (NGOs) have helped ensure that there is no adverse impact on the environment and to public health.

"As long as communities are vigilant and work closely with the concerned parties in airing any apprehension, we do not see any problem in hosting a power plant," said Caburao.

He adds that Sual residents would not tolerate any kind of pollution from plant operations. "We would be the first to react if any kind of damage was being done to the environment or to our health and we do not see any at this point," said Caburao. "It will be us who will know first if there's a problem in our communities or if we are impacted negatively by the plant operations," he adds.

Recently, Mirant Philippines was also cited by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) for its pro-environment advocacy, particularly its massive mangrove rehabilitation program in Pagbilao, Quezon where it operates a 700-MW clean coal facility.

Leonardo Camacho, Unesco Commissioner, commended Mirant for "being environment friendly and environment conscious," pointing out that the company has been doing its share in saving the environment.

The company is undertaking the largest mangrove rehabilitation program by the private sector through its Carbon Sink Initiative. The program will revive 150 hectares of mangrove and 150 hectares of upland forests in Pagbilao and Padre Burgos, Quezon as part of its environment advocacy.

PSBank makes auto loans 'simple'

PHILIPPINE Savings Bank (PSBank), the Philippines' second largest savings bank in terms of assets, has launched an auto loan that promises simplicity in terms of application turnaround.

The new PSBank Auto Loan makes it easier for consumers to own a brand new car. Its fast approval is owed to the bank's automated loan application processing system that allows the bank to process loans faster in terms of encoding applications and credit evaluation.

The loan has low interest rates based on the prevailing rate at the time of loan booking and has flexible payment terms of 12, 18, 24, 36 or 48 monthly amortizations. With a convenient mode of recompense-postdated checks, over-the-counter or automatic debit arrangement-PSBank Auto Loan is truly made simple for the customer.

Applicants can avail themselves of the PSBank Auto Loan by submitting a completely filled-out application form and photocopies of the following: latest certification of employment indicating position, tenure and compensation; latest full month payslip or income tax return and Form W2; valid ID (driver's license, passport or company ID); and latest billing statement indicating home address (electric, water or telephone). For self-employed applicants, include bank statements for the last six months, business registration and mayor's permit.

For more information, call the auto loans division at 885-8208 locals 8213, 8223, 8325; 8512, 8675, 8677 to 79, 8681 to 86, or visit any PSBank branch.

'OPERATION TULI' IN QUEZON CITY

The 8th Peak Mountaineers, in cooperation with Lingap Para sa Kalusugan ng Sambayanan (Lingap)-PLM Chapter, an organization of medicine student volunteers, held its 'Oplan: Libreng Tuli' in Barangay Sangandaan, Project 8, Quezon City April 9. About 70 young boys from the area benefited from this free medical service. The 8th Peak Mountaineers has been consistently organizing medical and dental missions that actively tap community involvement and volunteerism. Shown are Vangie Urquiola (6th from left), executive committee chief of 8th Peak Mountaineers, and Barangay Captain Juan 'Estong' Untalan (8th from left) joining the medical volunteers.

Nu Skin 'celebrates' success seminar

MANY of those who have pursued the opportunities of multilevel marketing and joined Nu Skin Enterprises Philippines Inc can attest that their lives have positively changed. Nu Skin will celebrate their accomplished distributors' personal and professional victories in the upcoming Success Seminar slated July 15 at Ballrooms I and II of Dusit Hotel Nikko, Ayala Center, Makati. Titled "Celebrate Success", the event will be highlighted by the recognition of a new roster of Blue Diamond couples-one of the highest distributor titles, as well as top Quarterly Achievers, Pin Advancements and Business Club winners. The success seminar will also feature special messages from revered international Blue Diamonds and Team Elites. Among those who will share their stories of success are Paul Cooke, Joseph and Janet Cheung, and Pat and Marguerite Sung. For details, call Nu Skin's distributor hotline at 689-0333 or log on to www.nuskin.com.ph.

PRSP CALLS ON GMA

The Board of Directors of the Public Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP) recently paid a courtesy call on President Gloria Macapagal-Aroyo and presented her the Anvil of Appreciation Award. Shown, from left, are Rochelle Hilario of Asian Terminals Inc, secretary; Butch Raquel of GMA Network, vice president external; Maloli Espinosa of ABS-CBN, vice president internal; Milen de Quiros of Full Circle Communications, president; Max Edralin of Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, adviser; Charlie Agatep of Agatep and Associates, adviser; Jones Campos of Globe Telecom, immediate past president, and Dante Velasco of Creative Point, director.

Mundipharma, a new analgesic company

A NEW company in the Philippine healthcare industry opens its doors this month with the inauguration of Mundipharma Distribution GmbH (Philippine branch).

Mundipharma Philippines is an independent associate of the worldwide Mundipharma independent associates that have licensed for many years the trusted product Betadine to Pascual Laboratories Inc in the Philippines and now focuses on products for moderate to severe pain treatment.

From a commercial point of view, Mundipharma Philippines is the "butterfly metamorphosis" of what used to be known as ADP Corp, and will be carrying the same products for the treatment of pain. Also in the pipeline are additional products for pain treatment that will be the answer to the need of patients in the Philippines suffering from the torment of constant pain.

While some of the molecules Mundipharma Philippines is marketing are new, a few have been around for some time. These, however, have been modified by the application of patented controlled release drug-delivery technologies that allow the patient to take the medication twice or even once daily instead of the usual every four to six hours. These delivery systems, called the Continus or the newer Acrocontin systems, when applied to swallowed tablets, allow the patient to sleep better by preventing steep fall-offs in blood levels of pain medication. They also reduce the incidence of breakthrough pain which, for sufferers of severe pain, is something like being stabbed to the point of wakefulness in the middle of a good night's sleep.

Mundipharma Philippines, which is headed by Evangelito T. Ardeta and currently employs 37 people, will share this expertise in partnership with the medical profession in the Philippines to give patients relief from serious pain.

BLUE HORIZONS PARTNERS WITH FCM TRAVEL SOLUTIONS

Chief executive officer and president Patrick Blum (3rd from left) of Blue Horizons Travel and Tours Inc signs a partnership agreement with FCm Travel Solutions' Asia director Joseph Kao (2nd from right) as other top executives of both firms look on. The agreement enables Blue Horizons' 9 offices nationwide and its team of local travel specialists to offer FCm Solutions' end-to-end travel services to local and global corporate clients. FCm Solutions is an AsiaPacific-based global travel management provider. Flanking Blum and Kao are, from left, Blue Horizons sales and marketing director Veronica Fojas, FCm Travel Solutions network development general manager Charles Gregory, and Blue Horizons managing director Arnie Bayag.

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
JULY 5, 2005

RP summit on women, technology

IN AN effort to empower women in a workplace setting that strongly centered on the ever-changing landscape of information technology, the Women's Business Council Philippines (WBCP), in partnership with the Information Technology Association of the Philippines (Itap), is organizing the inaugural Philippine Summit on Women and Technology to be held on July 14 at the Dusit Hotel Nikko in Makati. Women of prominent stature in fields as diverse as media, government, business and IT are set to give talks to further the summit's objective. The summit will be an exclusive gathering of more than 500 successful women from different fields. Summit speakers include Philippine Daily Inquirer CEO Sandy Prieto-Romualdez and fitness guru Tina Aboitiz-Juan. A special talk would also be given by Roselle Ambubuyog who, despite being blind since the age of 6, managed to get summa cum laude honors from the BS Math program of the Ateneo de Manila University and become a sought-after IT consultant. For more information, call Gina at 813-2732/03 or e-mail slvguru@pldtdsl.net.

B14

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 897-8425 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 897-8425
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5224406 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MONDAY, JULY 11, 2005

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES

P245 per column centimeter

P75 per line

(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES

for reservations / cancellations / corrections

Mondays to Saturdays
12:00 noon
Day before publication

Sundays
12:00 noon
every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
Ex. SWEAT PIMPLES KELOID
ALLERGY WARTS SKIN PEEL
15 Annapolis Greenhills
Call 7276124 - 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD Skin Clinic Rapid
Tx Comp Lab Tel. 8175071
Matrinco 2178 P. Tamo Makati

PERSONAL

MASSAGE

02-3233269 BEST BOYS

ASK BELL MALE MASSEUR (0921)6354794

•Bachelor's 4546275•

BEAUTIE'S MASSAGE
MLA:8857973 CEBU: (032) 2562187

BOY'S MASSAGE
MLA:4587993 CEBU: (032) 2593809

Candy 8971506;09212085309

COMPLETE WHOLE BODY MASSAGE 8238456, 09179723043

GENTLEHANDS 453-3803•

★HUMAN TOUCH 4541084

•HOLLYWOOD 456-0799•

Karisma 4215996

MASSAGE 8547144 VICTOR

★Mr BODY PHYSIQUE ★
11A Kamias QC 4350978

★★ Mr EARTH SPA ★★
123B Kamuning rd QC 4102182

RELAXING MASSAGE 8978214

THAI Msge Lic 0921-7569278

ULTIMUS
410-7326 09287551010 1143-I Del Monte Avenue, corner West Avenue, Q.C.

UNISEX MASSAGE
719-7066

REFLEXOLOGY

Chris or Robert 8548556

Edward 7289285 09195367404

★ FEELS GOOD 4127758 ★

HEARTTHROB SPA & REFLEX
779 Aurora Cbao 4128104

TUTORIAL LESSONS

•ADEPT TUTORS 8833671

FINANCIAL

Bounced Checks Bad Debt
NO COLLECT, NO PAY
7813530 / 0917.8215945

FOOD DELIVERY/ CATERING

Food Catering
Glorietta de Manila
Call 733-5567/8061
Loc 11-12 Tess Cube

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

A'A MAID & YAYA 4386920

All arnd Maid Yaya 4399290

HI PAY MAID, YAYA 732-67-50

Best Maid Yaya Driver 995-7034

Direct Maids Yaya Int'l Cook 7289060

EXP MAIDS w/ NBI 4398468

Help Agency 5328376 • 5321947

★MAID YA² DRIVER
8549921

H'WORKING MAIDS 421-3828

Trusted Maids w/NBI 4392490

Trusted Maids Yaya H'Boy 7572089

Yaya, Cook H'maid 8957507

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

RSG GUEVENTHOMES

BACOOR only 10 mins from Baclaran

P6,606/mo*

* Pag-IBIG Housing Loan

as low as P900T

30% D/P
in easy installment

70% balance thru In-House
convertible to Pag-IBIG Housing Loan

Soon to rise!
walk to University Belt

as low as P700T

CASH/TERMS

STUDENT CONDO

534-9921 * 531-0390 * 531-1384 * (0917) 855-7881 * (0920) 950-4626 * (0920)910-0000
(0920) RSGHOME * Toll Free: 1-800-10- RSGHOME * www.guevent.com

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

HOUSEHOLD

LIPAT BAHAY

•731-6833•LIPAT

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

Cheap 9260424/09163416775

L-BAHAY 8383742/09208449984

Lipat 6817623 ★ 6817136

P1200/TRIP 742-14-57

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

MANDALUYONG

CALDERON 670m² 7236855/8042

MANDALUYONG NR SHAW
BrewTwnhse 3stry 3br'3-4tb-mdsrm/1-2grge P3.645M up 8903461

MARIKINA

Bungalow 4br 3tb L-383 P4.2M Mrkna Hgts Nr St. Scho, Park & Mall, 0918-9378869

Hse Up/Dwn 2br 85m² Lot 100m² P1.2M Mkna Hgts Nr St. Scho, Park & Mall 0918-9378869

Provident VII nr Ateneo 413m² P5M neg 413m² w/3hes nr gate Rush 9488240/9338423

QUEZON CITY

Hse&lot4Sale 2stry 4BR mdsrm. 4TB 2car grg Blue Ridge Subd.Tel 8114071 8236047

NEW MLA 3BR 3T&B P16M, 17M & 20M 0917-7499447

New Mla FA450m² 6453731

N'Intramuros 2-sty 7238042

Nr Ateneo 4.8M &up 6453731

nr UP,Ateneo Miriam & Malls
ST IGNATIUS VIL
nr Eastwood, corner lot 13M 6BR 400m² Direct Buyers
912-0312 • 995-0925

PROVINCIAL

2STY 4BR 1CR LA262sqm Sta. Cruz, Naga City near UNC, Ateneo, LCC, Call 054-2995340 • 2992827 • 0920-2977839 •0920-9125664

CAVITE

MOLINO 500k 09187141462

LAGUNA

Laguna Bel-Air Sta Rosa Low D/P Price Range P1.3M to 2M -Edna 0917-8312369

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1.3M C5 Nr The Fort
12T/mo. or 4Yrs. No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 2-4BR 15min Fr Mktl 0917-8169849

1.3M RESORT-TYPE nr Mktl 2-4BR 12T/mo or No DP or 0% 1st Class • Bess 0917-5234223

HAMPTONS PLACE
Global City Build 2 Own 634-1212

Oriental Gardens Makati 45.5m² 2.7&up Roselyn 0920-3843962

MAKATI

Makati RFO CONDO BNEW
Sale/ Rent 09176266516

MAKATI STUDIO
RENT/SALE BNEW READY 5756976/8941051/5757051

MANILA

Pre-Sell Roxas Blvd 2007 No DP 40K/mo. or 20%DP 23K/mo. 0920-9602940 Bay Garden

SAN ANDRES MANILA
Townhse/3sty/3br/3tb/ P3.860M Tel 8903461 loc 34

QUEZON CITY

2 New Townhouses, 2BDR/2TB, large attic living, dining, kitchen maid's rm w/TB, 1-car garage; good water supply, secured cmpd. very accesible location LA 65 sqm GFA 153 sqm Special Price Discount Easy Payment Terms Tels:818-2781;751-5472 Cell: 0919-6745430

4BR w/grge Sikatuna Vil nr UP Ateneo Glori-Mart 9215328 6582410 09166496838

ALPHA VICTORIA NEW MLA LA116 FA236 5.5M 6341212

Cubao P1.5M 10%DP 9126976

KATIPUNAN 2BR CONDO RUSH SALE 0920-9207828

Nr Roosevelt LA-115 FA-220 3br 3tb 2cg P6.2M New 7119051

RIZAL

CAINTA TWNHSE P755T RFO RENT TO OWN 0920-9207828

OTHER AREAS

Boracay Condotel 3.8M
EARN P520T/Yr. ROI 5Yrs. P75T/mo. or 1Yr. No Interest Fully Furnished 0917-8313226

APARTMENT

CAVITE

3 UNITS DIRECT BUYER (0917)624-3900 or (0917)623-3900 REMVELLE SAGANA ST BACOOR CAVITE

LOT

ALABANG

HILLSBOROUGH 400m² 7236855

MARIKINA

SSS Vill. 1578m² 634-1212

QUEZON CITY

D'ANTONIO ROYL 319m² 7238042

GRAND VILLAS Top Row w/view back ATENEO LOTS hse & lots avble 426-5650 929-1832 • 0919-8212235

RIZAL

Vill East 204m² 6453731

OTHER AREAS

Tayabas Quezon 1500m² 6453731

OTHER PROVINCIAL

1383m² BACOLOD 1300/m² TITLED 09196316947/5756845

LOT

LAGUNA

• RUSH!!!Best Buy •
Mamplasan, Binan, Laguna LA176sqm P500K + Asme. Balnce (thru pag-ibig or bank loan) or cash. DBO. 0917-8997547 Jona

BUILDING

EDSA 1600m² 3-sty 7236855

RESORT

CAYLABNE BEACH 1BR VILLA RFO P5.3M 0920-9207828

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

QUEZON CITY

4br Corinthian Garden 6341212

RIZAL

Binangonan 1BR Prkg S-Furn P8T • 0917-8534645

CONDO/TWNHSE

SAN JUAN

BUNGALOW IN COMPOUND W/2 BR 1TB PRKNG FOR 2 CARS MILA/CIONNIE 7240840

MANDALUYONG

CONDO EDSA 2BR/2TB PKNG FULL FURNISH 09212263303

PASIG

MEGAPLAZA STUDIO BARE P11T/mo Call 8255399

QUEZON CITY

2BR Condo 2TB nr. Grnhills & St.Paul 57.59m 0918-9265471

MAKATI

CONDO 4 Transients P1.2T/ Day T Morato 0917-5332355

RIZAL

ANTIPOLO Thse 2BR2TB grge private res, w/chapel garden 24hrs security free space4 party nice&peaceful 9121163

NEW!
FOUR SEASONS
Salcedo
luxuriously and elegantly furnished penthouse, bi-level and 3 BR units
8182745 / 8125577
Brokers welcome!

APARTMENT

MAKATI

2BDRM 1BATH MAÑALAC ST NR ROCKWELL MKT 14T 09209506052 - ITO

MANILA

NR UST 1137 Carola 8958767

Samp 6459302 - 7841746

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

QUEZON CITY

Cubao P8T 2sty 2BR 9121163

P5500 Bago Bantay nr SM North 4551692

Stdio unit White Plains 9115162

SAN JUAN

2-sty 2BR w/ Carport & Phone P10T 7246396

ROOM & BOARD

1BR w/AC TB Mkt 8992148

Only P200! Daily, Wkly!!! Sucat Paranaque 8257524

P120! MANILA, 783-6781 DAILY,Weekly 0922-8321888

BEDSPACE

Mkti nr Ayala P1T Ldy 8974697

RESORT LEASE/ RENT

Pansol Hot Spring priv 7767507

LOAN & MORTGAGE

1.4% MONTHLY 8976644-46 LAS PINAS 8054326 / 6342 QUEZON CITY 3730239-40

BUSINESS . DOCTOR 524-3197

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

JBD Plaza 65 Mindanao Ave QC in need of food chains interested to utilized ground floor unit of bldg 63m² good location good occupancy reasonable rates Call 929-8799 / 928-5181

MALATE MLA 526-8048/49

MAKATI

COMML/OFFICE SPACES FOR LEASE (58m²- 627m²) 887-6003

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

HONDA

00 Honda LXI 335K 0920-9118050

2K CRV M. SILVER
• 21K MLG. • [illegible]

MITSUBISHI

Adventure SS2000 P420T neg 1st Ownd Fld 45Km Fresh I/O 533-6937 0918-6289799 Edwin

TOYOTA

Tyt Corona 95 Well Kept 1st Owner 0917-4546747 Ruel 681-9286 Php 480K

VOLVO

'01 S70 26TKm 1.5M Neg. 744-5100 to 02 • Wong

CARS FOR RENT

CarsVans CoasterBus 422-9296

P800/L3 9136710 / 4333682

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

SSS Building, 6782 Ayala Avenue corner V. A. Rufino Street, Makati City
Tel. No. 841-4925; Fax No. 841-4927; Website: www.pdic.gov.ph
E-mail: bacsecretariat@pdic.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC), thru its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites authorized accounting firms to apply for eligibility and to bid for the Audit of PDIC Administration of 30 Closed Banks. Relevant information and schedule of events are presented below:

Particulars	
Approved Budget of the Contract	P 2,143,698.00
Duration	Audit reports to be submitted within 60 business days from start of audit. Engagement shall start one (1) week after the signing of contract, unless another date is mutually agreed upon in the contract
Minimum Requirements:	With previous experience in external and/ or internal audit of banks for the past 5 years, with at least one (1) bank audited each year With at least 30 qualified professional staff to undertake the audit Each audit team deployed should be headed by a senior audit staff, with at least 3 years audit experience
Availability of Instruction to Bidders/ Terms of Reference	Starting July 4, 2005 (Monday) 8:00am – 5:00pm 9th Floor, SSS Building, 6782, Ayala Ave. cor. Rufino St., Makati City
Pre-bid Conference	July 15, 2005, 9:00 am (Friday) 8th Floor, SSS Building, 6782, Ayala Ave. cor. Rufino St., Makati City
Deadline for the Submission of Eligibility Requirements, Technical and Financial Proposals; opening of said requirements/ proposals shall follow immediately	July 28, 2005 - Until 9:00am (Thursday) 9th Floor, SSS Building, 6782, Ayala Ave. cor. Rufino St., Makati City

Bidding documents/forms shall be made available to interested bidders after payment of a non-refundable amount of P500.00.

All particulars relative to the Eligibility Requirements/Bid Proposals and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Evaluation of Bids, Post Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of Republic Act 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.

PDIC reserves the right to waive any informality or minor defect and to accept the offer most advantageous to the Government.

PDIC shall in no case be held responsible or liable for any and all costs associated with the bidders' participation in the bidding process regardless of its results.

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

(PDI--July 11, 2005)

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

WAREHOUSES FACTORIES FOR LEASE

* PASIG	BUILD TO SUIT
* QUEZON CITY	5,000 SQM UP
* CARMONA	10 TO 15 yrs
* LAGUNA	CONTRACT
* EXPORT ZONE	BIG PARKING

LUCKY HAUS REALTY
TEL. 912-6020 * 912-6021

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

MARIAN CARS•VANS•BRDAL 8969956•8957247

FIRST IMPERIAL UDRIVE CARS VANS 5314082, 5784077

TOYCO CARS SUV VANS Rental Dly Wkly Monthly Rental Mnl. 8023021-22 CEBU (032) 3451802 DAVAO (082)2358375

URVAN 0917-5444721

ABC RENT A CAR
HI-ACE • STAREX
L300 • URVAN • REVO ETC
AND ALL CAR BRANDS / TYPES
MLA : 536-8822 • 303-9789
Q.C.: 426-2278 • 426-4084

CAR LOAN

1.5% Auto Easy 5344441

1.5% Auto Express 5221001-02

1.5% Car Loan 6560140

1.5% CARLOAN 373-6519

1.5% CARLOAN 788-0361

1.5% Easy Car Loan 3748765

1.5% Easy Car Loan 4112547/48

1.5% Easy Carloan 7816352/55

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

2% w/o taking car 7880183-84

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081/82

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 8950454

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CAR LOAN

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/out taking car 5315577

2% w/out taking car 6567685

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BILLIARDS

26T New Compl Sr Impld 7767507

FURNITURE/ FIXTURES

Table Chair Vblind Ref 4210747

PETS

ASZOO
DOG TRAINING 455-6212

PHIL. DOG SCHOOL
Call: 721-37-36

WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5646593 5897041
5633742 0917-8473744

BUYING ROLEX
Other WATCHES, BEST PRICE
0917-8884040 • 7269687
7220433 • 4123543

TECHNICAL RECRUITER

Software Engineering

SpecOpS Laboratories, a PEZA-registered software engineering company is searching for a Technical Recruiter that can assist in locating software engineering companies to bid on the development of selected modules of the DAVID OS Platform.

Technical Recruiters that wish to participate in this project must have a wide network of software engineering firms and persons.

Application deadline is on July 12, 2005.

For further information, contact:
recruit@specopslabs.com

ACCOUNTING STAFF

- Female, not more than 26 years old
- Accounting graduate or any Business related course
- Computer literate, with or without experience

Please apply personally at
126 Kaingin Road, Balintawak QC
Tel. 330-1803 or 330-5730

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

WANTED TO BUY

A NAME YOU CAN TRUST!
MANILA WATCH EXCHANGE
BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
& OTHER SWISS WATCHES
DIAMONDS / JEWELRY
HI-APPRAISAL/FAST CASH
REPAIR/POLISH ANY WATCH
T#804-0484 • 834-2886

"PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE"
LOW 5% INTEREST
BUY • SELL • PAWN
SWISS WATCHES
AGENCIA de MAKATI-8897956
SECONDO AYALA CENTER-8940282
OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

Migrating to Canada or Australia, please visit www.b4landing.com.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late FLORDELIZA R. ARMEA was extrajudicially settled with waiver on May 6, 2005 per Doc. No. 421, page No. 85, Book No. II, Series of 2005 of Notary Public Atty. Jose Perlas of City of Manila. (PDI - July 11, 18 & 25, 2005)

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

NEED SIDELINE?
P/F up to P20K/mo. 3762642 to 43

QC Carshop 500m² 8974697 35T

RTW CONSIGN 3738821

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE/FEMALE

BSP•BSN•PT•MT
Any Allied Health Grads up to P45T/ Mo! 8926828

CAREGIVER 5280730

MARKETING ASSISTANT,
w/experience. Rizal Residents only
8866472 / 8895463

OFC STF 09159481404 GENESIS

OFFICE STAFF 09192247082 Faye

Urgently Needed
CIVIL ENGINEER
w/ or w/o exp. Pls. submit your resume @ 4208-E Ponte St., Tejeros, Mkt City or fax @ 897-3885

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 897-8425 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8978425
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 522-4406 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

THE **HERITAGE PARK**
FORT BONIFACIO
Funeral Home and Crematory
845-2334 to 38; 845-2440

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

METRO MANILA

• LAS PIÑAS
FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
187 Real St., Zapote Alabang, Las Piñas;
Tels. 873-0507; 873-0024

• MAKATI
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road, Makati City; Tel. 894-5932 to 34
FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
865 J.P. Rizal St., Poblacion, Makati City; Tels. 890-3556; 899-8191
LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS
EDSA cor. Bernardino St., Guadalupe, Makati City; Tels. 895-1011 to 19
MALABED FUNERAL SERVICE
3-A Coronado St., Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City; Tel. 890-63-18
SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO PARISH
Forbes Park, Makati City; Tel. Nos. 843-8838/30; Fax No. 843-9223
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City;
Tels. 852-8228; 852-7284

• MALABON
FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila;
Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522

• MANDALUYONG
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City;
Telefax 724-4139; 725-2044

• MANILA
DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Dinalupihan St., Manuguit, Manila
Tels. 712-5102; 741-5125; 741-5133; Fax No. 711-3064
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
1501 C.M. Recto Ave. cor. T. Mapua, Manila;
Tels. 711-6931 to 35; 732-4795; 732-2827
POPULAR MEMORIAL CHAPELS, INC.
2141 Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila;
Tel. Nos. 254-0867, 254-0839
ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
16-15 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila;
Tels. 749-3679; 781-1772
UNIVERSAL FUNERAL SERVICE & MEMORIAL CHAPELS
2028 Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila;
Tels. 493-4458; 493-4540
WELINGTON FUNERAL SERVICES
1511 Gen. Luna St., Paco, Manila; Tel. 302-5447

• MARIKINA
ERIC SANTIAGO MEMORIAL CHAPELS
26 Bayanbayan Ave., Concepcion I, Marikina City;
Tels. 942-6044; 475-1177
F. SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
9 V. Gomez & 13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City;
Tels. 646-1725 or 646-1730
LOYOLA MEMORIAL PARK CHAPELS & CREMATORY SERVICES
Loyola Memorial Park, A. Bonifacio Avenue, Tañong, Marikina City
Tels. 941-3196 to 98; 941-3676; Telefax 941-3577
PAKET SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City;
Tels. 646-1725; 646-1730

• PARAÑAQUE
HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat Rd., Sucat, Parañaque City;
Tels. 825-1296; 825-1291, Telefax: 825-1314
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, SUCAT, INC.
Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat, Parañaque;
Tels. 820-1592; 825-9947; 825-8635
LINCOLN MEMORIAL SERVICES, INC.
Ground Floor, JEMP Bldg., J. Cebarrus cor. Monserrat Sts., Phase I,
BF Commercial Center, Parañaque, Metro Manila
RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
8187 Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat, Parañaque City
Tels. 826-1376; 826-9562; (0915) 712-1220

• PASAY
RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
438 Cementina St., Pasay City; Tels. 831-1204
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City;
Tels. 831-3797; 844-7846; 843-1801; 845-4836

• PASIG
ARLINGTON EAST THE GARDEN CHAPELS
C. Raymundo St. cor. Mercedes Ave., San Miguel Ave., Pasig City
Tels. 747-6599; 747-6609 • Telefax 641-1760
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City;
Tels. 641-7909; 641-1735

• QUEZON CITY
ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City;
Tels. 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027
LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#23 Palo St., Project 2, Quezon City; Tel. 434-3258
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City
Tels. 749-3806 to 11; 712-3001; 743-6502 or 05
NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
264 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City;
Tels. 713-5231 to 35; 714-0867; 714-0868
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
296 Quezon Ave., Quezon City;
Tels. 372-5084; 410-9286/87

• TAGUIG-PATEROS
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila;
Tels. 642-3010; 633-3602
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila;
Tels. 642-6181 to 82
HERITAGE PARK
Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila;
Tels. (DL) 845-2341 to 42; (TL) 845-2334 to 38 loc. 110/112

PROVINCIAL

• ALBAY
LIGÑON HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS, INC.
Bugtong Road, Legaspi City;
Tels. (052) 820-0188; 0917-2074152

• BACOLOD
ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Ground Flr. Rolling Hills Chapel, 27th-Lacson St., Mandalagan, Bacolod City; Tel. 433-7132

• BAGUIO
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City;
Tel. (074) 443-3337; (074) 442-3117

• BATAAN
SANTUARIO GARDEN & CHAPELS
Talisay Road, Balanga City, Bataan;
Tels. (047) 2370643 • 7911766

• BULACAN
FUNERARIA TUASON
Poblacion, San Miguel, Bulacan 3011;
Tels. (044) 764-0281; 678-0266; (0917) 895-0603

• CAVITE
FUNERARIA SAMSON
145 Bayan Luma, Imus, Cavite;
Tels. (046) 471-3375; 471-2675
LA FUNERARIA SAPINOSO
G. Tirona St., Imus, Cavite;
Tels. (046) 471-3386; (046) 471-4417; (046) 571-1978

• CEBU
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City;
Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch: A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu;
Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601

• DAVAO
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City;
Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258

• ILOCOS
LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#27 Crisologo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur; Tel. 722-2730;
Cell (0917) 5680136; (0917) 5680145

• LAGUNA
SAN RAMON FUNERAL HOMES
2020 Brgy. Dila, Sta. Rosa, Laguna;
Tels. (049) 837-5652; 531-4142; Fax (049) 531-4989
ZUASOLA FUNERAL HOMES
Brgy. Del Remedio, San Pablo City, Laguna
Tels. (049) 562-1668; 800-2914
Cel. No. (0917) 5016963

• PAMPANGA
FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
Tels. (045) 888-2959 ; (045) 322-5247

• RIZAL
OUR LADY OF PEACE MEMORIAL PARK CHAPEL & SERVICES, INC.
No. 6 Carigma St., Antipolo City 1870
Tel. No. 697-0782; 697-0026; 650-7426; Fax : 697-2764
F. SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
Guitnang Bayan, San Mateo, Rizal;
Tels. 649-5949; 942-4460
HOLY GARDENS MEMORIAL PARK
Third Level, Unishoppe Complex, Quezon Ave., Angono, Rizal
Tels. 651-1711; 651-0737
MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Marcos Hiway, Antipolo, Rizal; Tels. 645-1855

• ZAMBALES
DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
Tels. (047) 222-3605; (047) 811-1086; (047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014
OLONGAPO MEMORIAL PARK
Del Rosario St., Tabacuhan, Sta. Rita, Olongapo;
Tel. No. (047) 223-1692

FELICIDAD B. LAYGO

Now peacefully in the infinite Grace and Goodness of the Lord on the 8th of July, 2005

A loving wife to her husband **Eddie**; her children **Aileen & Rico**, **Jun & Jessa**, her granddaughters **Jana** and **Joey Anne**.

Her family, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at her residence, 27 Modern Village, Paciano Rizal, Calamba City, Laguna.

Interment will be on Tuesday, July 12, 2005 at 1:00 p.m. after offering the Mass.

Death Notices

Inocencia Hizon Zamora
Peacefully joined our Lord on July 8, 2005.
Her remains lie in state at the Santuario de San Antonio Church, Forbes Park, Makati City.
Interment will be on Thursday, July 14, 2005 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City.

— oOo —

Marcelo A. Alcudia
Died on July 4, 2005 at the age of 58.
His body lies in state at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani Mortuary, Fort Bonifacio.
Interment will be on July 15, 2005 at 8:00 a.m. at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani.

— oOo —

Leocadio M. Manuel
Peacefully joined our Creator on July 6, 2005.
His remains lie in state at the Mortuary of Barangay Marilag Multi-purpose Hall at P. Tuazon Ave., Proj. 4 Quezon City.
Interment will be announced later.

> **"Let the words of my mouth meet your Favor, keep the thoughts of my heart before you, Lord, my rock, my redeemer..."** — Psalm 21:15

CLASSIFIEDS

MARKETING COORDINATOR SALES REPRESENTATIVE

- ✓ 25 TO 34 YEARS OLD
- ✓ RESOURCEFUL
- ✓ CREATIVE
- ✓ HARDWORKING

Pls. call 892-9058 / 892-4427 for appt. or submit resume to 1202 Medical Plaza, Cor. Amorsolo & dela Rosa Sts., Legaspi Vill., Makati City

DENTIST DENTAL ASSISTANT

- ➢ FEMALE (Preferably Single)
- ➢ 22 TO 30 YEARS OLD
- ➢ TEAM PLAYER
- ➢ AGGRESSIVE
- ➢ HARDWORKING

Pls. call 892-9058 / 892-4427 for appt. or submit resume to 1202 Medical Plaza, Cor. Amorsolo & dela Rosa Sts., Legaspi Village, Makati City

Drop your resumés NOW!
JOB Market
Visit any of the Inquirer Classified Ads branch and drop your resumés in our new

Resumé Box
We gather your resumés and forward them to companies with employment needs.

PHILIPPINE PORTS AUTHORITY
PORT DISTRICT OFFICE OF VISAYAS
CIP COMPLEX, SERGIO OSMENA BLVD., NORTH RECLAMATION AREA CEBU CITY, PHILIPPINES
TEL. NO. (032) 2323401-04. FAX NO. (032) 2321990. ppavis@globelines.com.ph

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

The Philippine Ports Authority invites all interested parties to pre-qualify for the operations of cargo handling services in the Port of Sogod, Southern Leyte and Port of Guiuan, Eastern Samar under the jurisdiction of the Port Management Office (PMO) Tacloban.

Copies of Pre-qualification documents may be secured from the PBAC Secretariat, PMO Tacloban upon submission of an official Letter of Intent and payment of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P 2,500.00) which is non-refundable starting July 18-25, 2005.

Duly accomplished pre-qualification documents shall be addressed to the Chairman, Pre-qualification, Bids and Awards Commitee and submitted to:

The Philippine Ports Authority
Port Management Office – Tacloban
Port Area, Tacloban City

following the schedule/deadlines below:

Submission of Letter of Intent	July 18-25, 2005
Issuance of Bid Forms and other documents	August 10-19, 2005

Pre-qualified Bidders shall be duly notified in writing of the schedule for the following:
1. Pre-bid Conferences
2. Opening of Bids

The PPA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defects therein and accept the offer most advantageous to the Authority.

(Sgd.) RAUL T. SANTOS
Chairman, PBAC
Port District Manager

(PDI- July 4 & 11, 2005)

National Power Corporation
GEOTHERMAL GENERATION
BAC-MAN GEOTHERMAL POWER PLANT COMPLEX

July 7, 2005

INVITATION TO BID

INTERESTED PARTIES / SUPPLIERS ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC BIDDING TO BE CONDUCTED ON August 02, 2005, 2:00 P.M. FOR:

PR#3BAC-05-0248 / PB-05-0412 WORK ORDER
Supply / installation of materials in the replacement of DEHC Servomotor for control valves of BM 1 unit # 1 & 2
COST ESTIMATE : Php 1,800,000.00

COPIES OF BID DOCUMENTS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM PROCUREMENT SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION, GROUND FLOOR, BAC-MAN GEOTHERMAL POWER PLANT COMPLEX AND MUST BE SUBMITTED ON OR BEFORE August 02, 2005 10:00 A.M.

ALL BIDS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED WITH BID SECURITY IN THE FOLLOWING FORMS:

- CASH, MANAGER'S OR CASHIER'S CHECK-ONE (1%) OF THE ABC
- 2.5% of total ABC issued by the GSIS / PRIVATE SURETY with the following conditions:
  - The bond is a penal and callable on demand
  - The entire amount shall be forfeited in favor of the oblige upon default of the supplier. Terms printed in the policy form of surety company that is contrary to the intents of the above provisions should be deleted.

PLEASE BE INFORMED THAT A PRE-BID CONFERENCE AND PRE-ELIGIBILITY SCREENING WILL BE ON:

DATE July 22, 2005
TIME 10:00 A.M.
VENUE Bac-Man Geothermal Power Plant Complex, Conference Room

IN THIS CONNECTION YOUR PRESENCE OR A NECESSITY IN THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS IS HIGHLY SOUGHT.

FOR FURTHER INQUIRIES PLS. CONTACT BAC SECRETARIAT BMGPP COMPLEX AT (052) 820-3133.

(Sgd.) ROLANDO E. CAWALING
BAC Chairman, BMGPP Complex

(PDI--July 11 & 18, 2005)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

CREBA EXPO 2005
OUR WORLD UNDER ONE ROOF

CREBA EXPO 2005

The Chamber of Real Estate and Builders Association (CREBA) will hold the country's first-ever Developer's Summit – CREBA Expo 2005 – carrying the theme ***"Our World Under One Roof"***.

Over 500 developers, government agencies, local government units, schools, media outfits, banks, private and public financing institutions and suppliers and contractors will gather at the World Trade Center on July 27 to 30 to participate in the said event.

In support of the program, the **Philippine Daily Inquirer** will publish a special tabloid sized supplement dubbed as **CREBA EXPO 2005** on ***July 24, 2005.*** This magazine, dedicated to the biggest exhibit in the country's real estate and construction industry, promises to provide maximum media mileage to you, our advertisers.

Placing an ad in this supplement ensures:

1. **Full color advertising with NO color surcharge *(the 80% surcharge will be waived)***
2. **Reasonable price**

AD SIZE	WIDTH x HEIGHT	AMOUNT
Full Page	24.6 cms x 30 cms	56,595.00
Half Page	24.6 cms x 15 cms	28,297.50
1/4Page	12.3 cms x 15 cms	14,148.75
1/8 Page	12.3 cms x 7.5 cms	7,074.38

ACCEPTABLE AD MATERIAL : **TIF Format**
300 Pixels Per Inch (resolution)
CMYK Mode
MATERIAL DEADLINE : **July 21, 2005**

3. **Circulation within Metro Manila**
4. **Free copies of the CREBA Magazine to be distributed on July 27-30, 2005 during CREBA Expo 2005 event proper**
6. **Insert on Inquirer's July 24, 2005 issue.**

For your concerns please call Ms. Adela G. Mendoza at 421-0343 or 421-1420 or email agarcia@inquirer.com.ph.

Republic of the Philippines
NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION
Office of the Management Team

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The National Electrification Administration (NEA) through its Management Team Office is inviting bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the supply of **labor and materials** for the **construction of a MULTI-PURPOSE GYM at NMT Main Headquarters in San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija.**

Deadline for submission of company profile, pre-bid Conference and site inspection will be on **July 15, 2005** at exactly **10:00 a.m.** Bidding proper will be announced during the Pre-Bid Conference.

NMT reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive defect or informality therein, or accept any bid or offer which it may consider to be advantageous and beneficial to NMT.

(Sgd.) Engr. FRANK T. WY
PBAC Chairman
Cell No.: 0917-566-9519 / 0920-910-9960

Noted by:
(Sgd.) Mr. RAMON M. DE VERA
Chief Executive Officer

(PDI – July 10 & 17 2005)

BUSINESS

DOE declares open access to RP gas resources

By Abigail L. Ho

THE DEPARTMENT of Energy has declared "open access" to all existing and future natural gas resources in the country, hoping to lure in potential investors who would provide the funds for the processing of natural gas and the construction of the necessary infrastructure for compressed natural gas (CNG).

The open access declaration is contained in Department Circular 2005-07-006 signed on July 5. The circular was handed down to support the government's Natural Gas Vehicle Program for Public Transport (NGVPPT) which is meant to "provide the public transport sector with meaningful access to the supply of CNG."

The price of CNG is half that of the prevailing diesel price of P14.52 per cubic meter, equivalent to a liter of diesel.

Energy Undersecretary Peter Anthony Abaya said the passage of the circular would pave the way for the entry of CNG investors at a time world oil prices were soaring through the roof.

"Many potential investors now want to invest in the sector because of open access," Abaya told reporters in a recent interview.

Under the circular, the DOE will support industry participants in negotiating with natural gas service contractors, including those controlling gas reserves in the Camago-Malampaya and San Antonio, Isabela gas fields. With this support, investors may expect "reasonable" fees, terms and conditions for possible gas supply agreements.

A seven-person technical working group (TWG) from the DOE will provide the necessary assistance to private investors interested in entering the CNG market by coordinating with gas field service contractors for access to indigenous natural gas sources.

The TWG, under Abaya's care, will also facilitate the establishment of CNG supply access points as well as the pricing structure for commercial operations of potential CNG market players. This includes coordinating with the Philippine National Oil Co. for the development of the necessary CNG supply infrastructure.

The circular supports the NGVPPT, a seven-year pilot program, that aims to replace diesel-run public utility buses with vehicles that run on CNG.

More than a week ago, the first batch of 200 CNG-fueled buses arrived in the country. The buses, to be operated by HM Transport Inc., would ply the Laguna-Batangas-Manila route.

Seven bus operators, all accredited by the DOE, are bent on acquiring 185 more CNG buses by the end of the year.

The application of six more operators are pending for accreditation.

Abaya today will leave for the United States to work on securing loans that will pave the way for the acquisition of more CNG buses.

Abaya hopes to secure no-collateral loans at "soft rates."

The energy department wants to bring in a total of 2,000 CNG buses into the country.

According to Abaya, the first batch of CNG-fueled buses were from China.

Now, the government wants to acquire CNG buses made in the United States, he said.

PSBank Prime TIME DEPOSIT

- **OPEN** this 5-year Time Deposit for a minimum of P50,000.00.
- **EARN 8%** per annum - GUARANTEED.
- **ENJOY** your full interest income every month
  - via monthly crediting of interest, and
  - not subject to 20% withholding tax.

*Quoted rate is for a limited time only and is subject to change without prior notice.

Open an account now at any PSBank branch nationwide or text us at PSBANK PRIME <your name> <your landline no.> <your e-mail address> then send to 2327 for Globe or 0917-8902327 for non-Globe users.

BancNet Member of the PDIC. Maximum Deposit Insurance for each Depositor P250,000.00

Intelligent Performance Management

- Financial and Management Reporting
- Sales Analysis - Inventory Analysis - Product Costing
- Budgeting - Forecasting - Consolidation
- ABC Analysis - Balance Scorecard - MRP

PowerOLAP
Multi-Dimensionality
Bi-directional link to MS Excel

Philippines urged to develop oil stockpile

AN ADVISORY team from the United States Department of Energy Strategic Oil Stockpiling unit is urging the Philippine government to consider developing an in-country oil stockpile.

According to the US team, the Philippines is highly dependent on imported oil and lacks in-country refining capacity.

The five-person advisory team said in a recent report that maintaining an in-country oil stockpile would help shield the country against severe energy supply disruptions, guarantee a national oil supply in case of a global supply emergency and mitigate shortages related to possible refinery problems.

A national oil stockpile would also protect the country from possible economic damage that a supply interruption could bring, as well as cushion the economic impact associated with low oil supply and high prices, the group added.

"The Philippines' overall petroleum supply-and-demand structure is highly vulnerable and will become more so as its energy demands increase," the team said in its report. "The Philippines must consider a strategic oil stockpiling program to protect itself from the economic impact of oil supply disruptions."

"The economic and social benefits of strategic oil stocks exceed the cost of building and maintaining stocks," the team added. "Strategic oil stocks have a deterrent value and are an excellent investment in enhancing the energy and economic security of the nation."

Energy Undersecretary Peter Anthony Abaya also stressed the need for a national oil stockpile, saying this was the best way to maintain "stable prices and reliable supply."

The US DOE team recommended an in-country oil stockpile with a capacity based on the International Energy Agency (IEA) criteria of 90 days of net imports—an accepted standard among Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation member economies.

Looking at the country's oil imports and exports over the last five years, the US DOE team said the total size of the national stockpile should come up to 30 million barrels to achieve the IEA reserve criteria.

The composition of the Philippines Strategic Oil Stockpile should be as follows: 23.5 million barrels of crude oil, 5 million barrels of diesel fuel and 1.5 million barrels of liquefied petroleum gas.

The team identified six storage facilities that could house the national oil stockpile.

These included the Pandacan oil depot, the Batangas terminal of Caltex Philippines Inc., the Tabangao refinery of Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp., the Bataan refinery of Petron Corp., the Coastal Subic Bay Terminal, and the currently mothballed Nonoc Terminal.

Establishing a national oil stockpile would entail a huge investment, about $1 billion for a 30-million-barrel storage capacity, the team said. It then suggested that the government might want to consider funding options, including refiner and importer fees, national taxes on fuel and petroleum products, and long-term financing through bank loans or bonds.

Tax-related financing options, however, should be weighed carefully as these could result in heavy burdens for both the industry and the petroleum consumers, the US DOE team said.

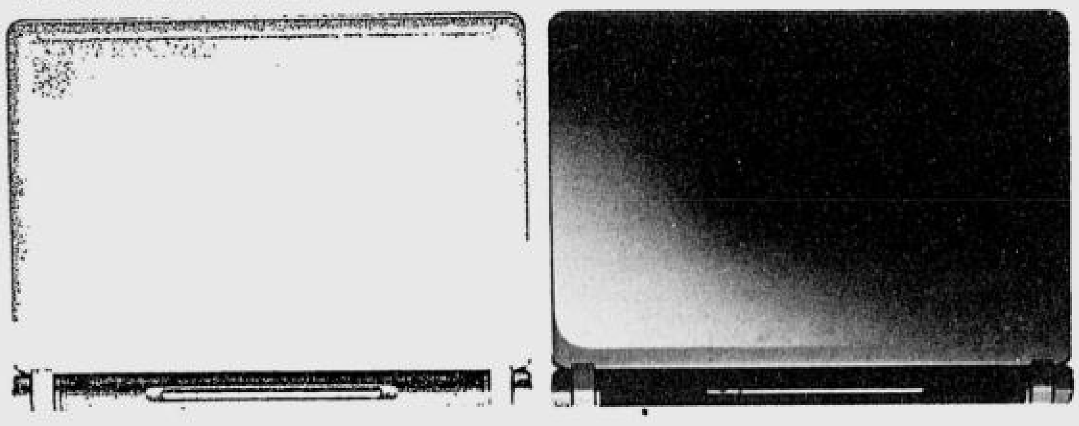
In terms of ownership, the team recommended that the country adopt the "public stocks" method, in which the government held the ownership of the strategic stocks. This would ensure assured stock availability, with the government having more control over stock management and maintenance.

Abigail L. Ho

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE INFINITE FUJITSU

Fujitsu recommends Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional.

fingerprint
RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY



32,687,501,859

The chance of someone else accessing your LifeBook is 1 in over 32 billion.

The LifeBook P7010 is equipped with AuthenTec TruePrint™ Technology that enables accurate fingerprint recognition with a swipe of a finger. Users can now experience hassle-free access to webmails, Internet banking or other Internet log-ons, with secured and authorised access to confidential data and hardware.

Powered by Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology, the LifeBook P7010 also allows seamless wireless computing without compromising on security.

Made-in-Japan quality
Recent survey shows that Fujitsu LifeBook had the highest reliability score for a Windows-based notebooks manufacturer.
Source: PC Mag online 17th Annual Reader Satisfaction Survey.

Built-In Confidence

LIFEBOOK
Made In Japan. World Class.

Fujitsu Philippines, Inc. (FPI)
Customer CareLine: +63 (2) 841-8488
Sales Hotline: +63 (2) 894-8557
Website: http://ph.fujitsu.com/fpi
Service Hoteline: +63 (2) 841-8400

MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph

BUSINESS Monday

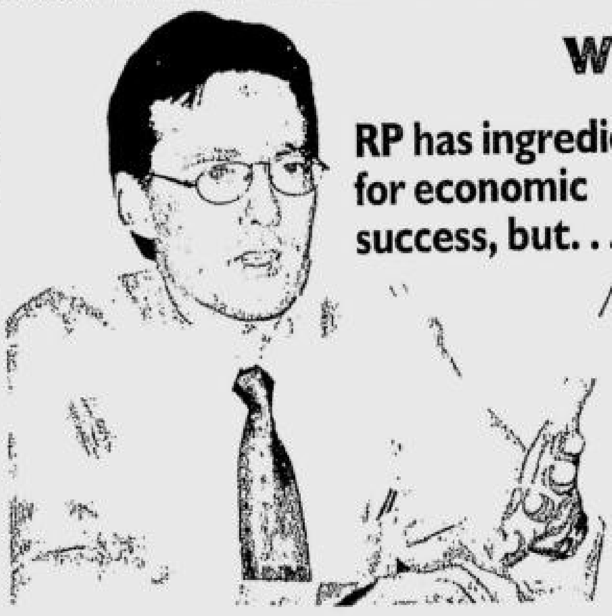
Business Features Editor **Margie Quimpo-Espino**

WHAT'S INSIDE

A LEADER'S WAY

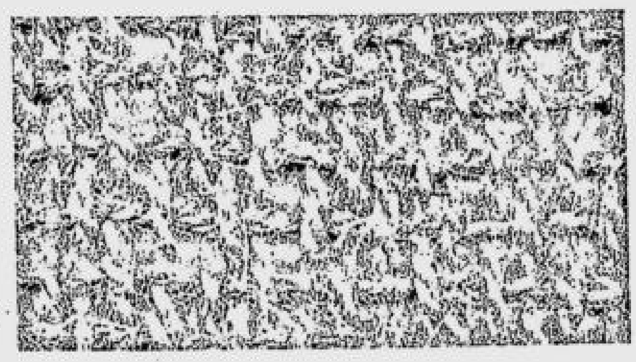
John C. Maxwell

The miracle of teamwork /B2-4

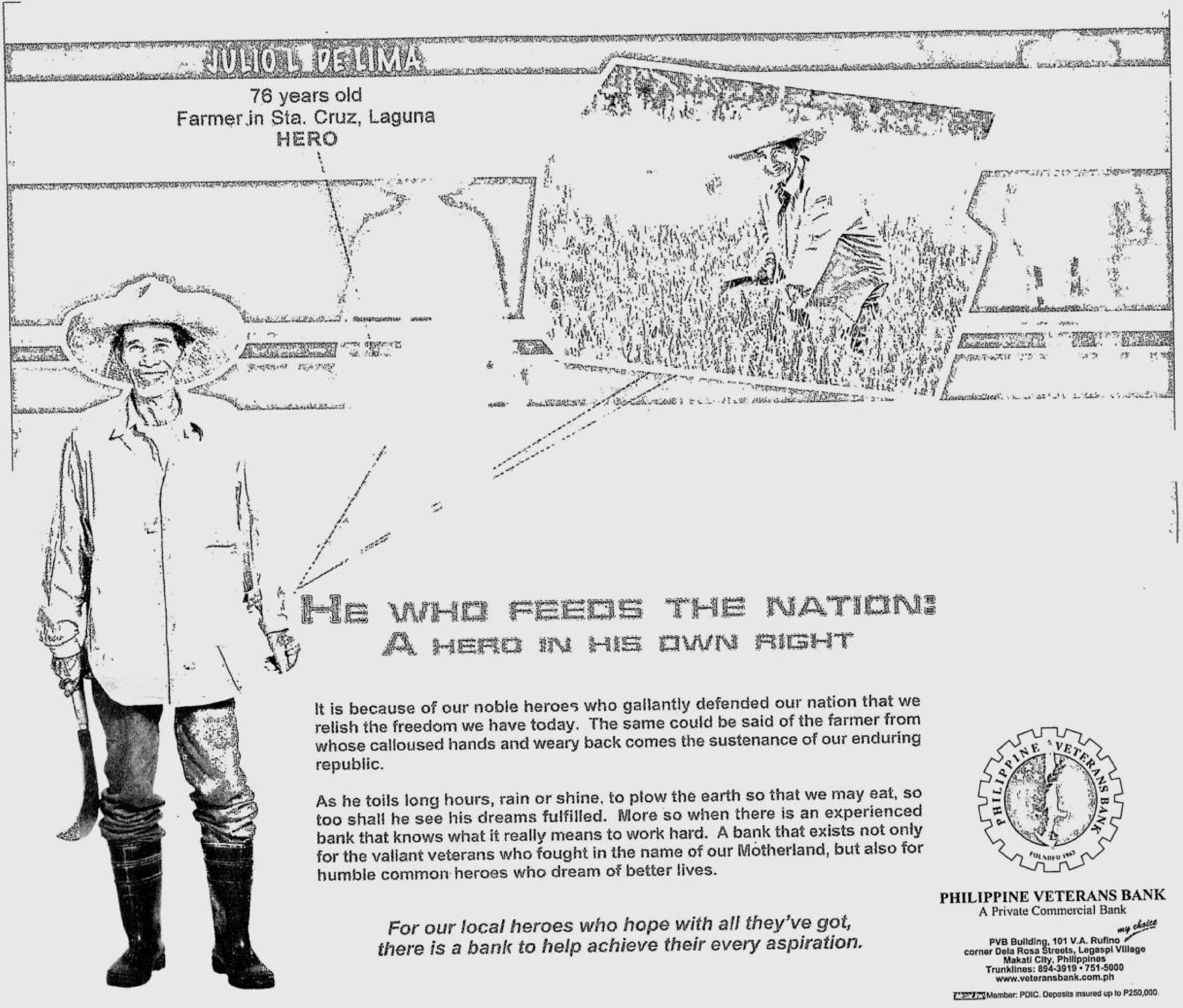


RP has ingredients for economic success, but. . . /B3-1

'Labor of love' creates a venture in wood B3-3



Coconet venture vies for world attention /B3-4



HE WHO FEEDS THE NATION:
A HERO IN HIS OWN RIGHT

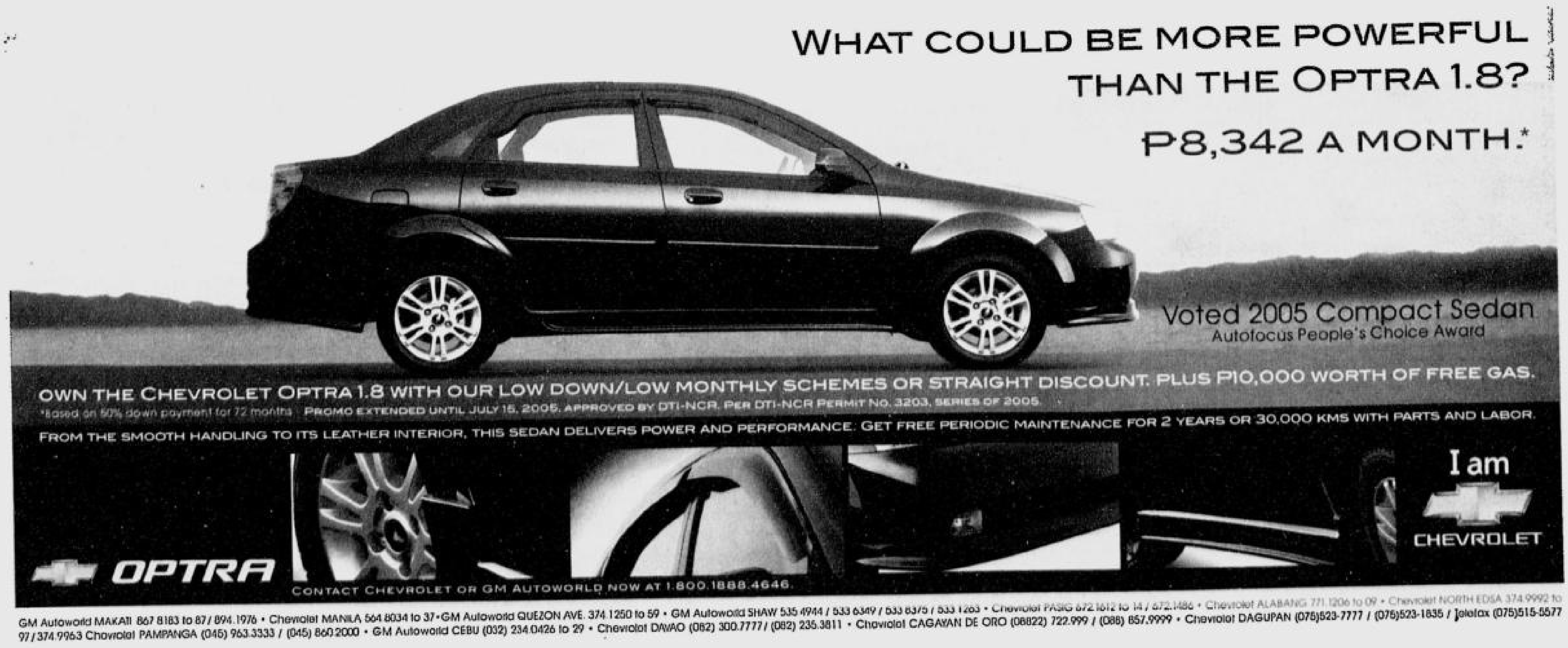
It is because of our noble heroes who gallantly defended our nation that we relish the freedom we have today. The same could be said of the farmer from whose calloused hands and weary back comes the sustenance of our enduring republic.

As he toils long hours, rain or shine, to plow the earth so that we may eat, so too shall he see his dreams fulfilled. More so when there is an experienced bank that knows what it really means to work hard. A bank that exists not only for the valiant veterans who fought in the name of our Motherland, but also for humble common heroes who dream of better lives.

For our local heroes who hope with all they've got, there is a bank to help achieve their every aspiration.

PHILIPPINE VETERANS BANK
A Private Commercial Bank
my choice
PVB Building, 101 V.A. Rufino
corner Dela Rosa Streets, Legaspi Village
Makati City, Philippines
Trunklines: 894-3919 • 751-5000
www.veteransbank.com.ph

Member: PDIC. Deposits insured up to P250,000.


WHAT COULD BE MORE POWERFUL THAN THE OPTRA 1.8?
P8,342 A MONTH.*
Voted 2005 Compact Sedan
Autofocus People's Choice Award
OPTRA
I am
CHEVROLET

OWN THE CHEVROLET OPTRA 1.8 WITH OUR LOW DOWN/LOW MONTHLY SCHEMES OR STRAIGHT DISCOUNT. PLUS P10,000 WORTH OF FREE GAS.

*Based on 50% down payment for 72 months. PROMO EXTENDED UNTIL JULY 15, 2005. APPROVED BY DTI-NCR. PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 3203, SERIES OF 2005.

FROM THE SMOOTH HANDLING TO ITS LEATHER INTERIOR, THIS SEDAN DELIVERS POWER AND PERFORMANCE. GET FREE PERIODIC MAINTENANCE FOR 2 YEARS OR 30,000 KMS WITH PARTS AND LABOR.

CONTACT CHEVROLET OR GM AUTOWORLD NOW AT 1.800.1888.4646.

GM Autoworld MAKATI 867 8183 to 87/ 894.1976 • Chevrolet MANILA 564 8034 to 37 • GM Autoworld QUEZON AVE. 374.1250 to 59 • GM Autoworld SHAW 535 4944 / 533 6349 / 533 6375 / 533 1263 • Chevrolet PASIG 672 1612 to 14 / 672.1486 • Chevrolet ALABANG 771.1206 to 09 • Chevrolet NORTH EDSA 374.9992 to 97 / 374.9963 Chevrolet PAMPANGA (045) 963.3333 / (045) 860.2000 • GM Autoworld CEBU (032) 234.0426 to 29 • Chevrolet DAVAO (082) 300.7777/ (082) 235.3811 • Chevrolet CAGAYAN DE ORO (08822) 722.999 / (088) 857.9999 • Chevrolet DAGUPAN (075)523-7777 / (075)523-1835 / Telefax (075)515-5577

52nd International Advertising Festival
CANNES LIONS 2005

Global Success in Reach of Local Ad Industry

By Angel V. Guerrero

Cannes, France - The International Advertising Festival - Cannes Lions, now on its 52nd year, drew in over 8,000 advertising professionals and more marketers than ever to its beach-side venue on the French Riviera. Both attendance and competition participation went up indicating that the global advertising community is in healthy form. An estimated 150 brands were represented, giving increase to client attendance at the show, like Procter & Gamble, Unilever, Nestlé, Walt Disney, Heineken, Diageo, McDonald's, Coca-Cola and BMW. This from only 65 brands in 2003 and 104 in 2004.

A massive 22,101 entries from 81 countries were entered into this global ad competition, an overall increase of 18 percent from last year. The Cannes Advertising Festival, inspired by the Film Festival in 1954, was exclusively a celebration of the best TV and Cinema commercials for 38 years, more than half of the festival's term. Only much later did they introduce the Press and Outdoor competition, the Young Creatives, Cyber Lions, Media Lions, Lions Direct and this year the Radio Lions and a revamped Titanium Lions. "Integrated is simply about the festival keeping in pace with the industry," said Terry Savage, CEO of the festival.

The festival, heralded as the most prestigious advertising event in the world, has become more than a celebration of the world's best advertising but an annual meeting place of the crème de la crème of world's advertising and communications industry with increasing interest each year. The presence of clients in Cannes, traditionally attended by advertising agency people, is seen by many as a positive sign of greater things to come - clients will come out of it wanting to create better work for their brands. The 36 pivotal seminars, a strong crowd-drawer, tackled current industry issues.

The Minors Bri
ng quarters.

PHILIPPINES' first Cannes Silver Lion went to BBDO Guerrero Ortega's public service "Bunso" TV commercials. A call to get children out of adults jails.

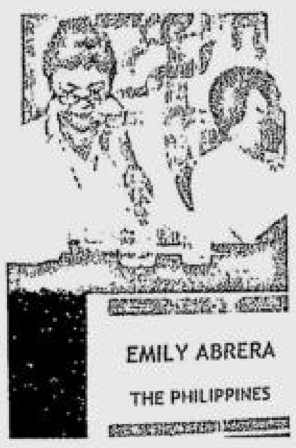
Jun Vivar, VP of United Laboratories and Pauline Lao, Country Media Manager of Procter & Gamble Philippine were the country's first clients to grace Cannes. Vivar wanted to be part of this global communications forum because "the marketplace is becoming more aggressive and there is the need to 'contemporize' brand image. We have to move away from complacency and do something new." Cannes, he said, offers an international perspective on communication. He fears that the country will fall into consistency and "just above average all the time. The country needs to win in a few things". Vivar is saying what the advertising industry wants to hear.

Procter & Gamble Philippines, represented by Pauline Lao, absorbed Cannes as part of her training and "to learn from the best examples of work showcased". Lao had a Media Lions entry for Rejoice Revival Shampoo titled "Song and Dance" submitted by media agency, Starcom Worldwide Philippines. The campaign garnered two shortlists for Best Use of Mixed Media and for Best Use of TV. This strong achievement surfaces from a pool of 1076 media entries from 56 countries.

The media campaign for Rejoice, more popularly recognized through the campaign's song "Sumusunod ang galaw (hair that moves with you)" was written by songwriter Lito Camo, It took the brand to its highest market share, overtook the market leader in top-of-mind awareness. All amid a saturated shampoo market where there is little differentiation. The brand's female target consumers picked up the song and its dance component and made into a national song and dance craze. The media strategy included a music video with frequent airplay, a televised Rejoice Girl Pageant, radio airplay across the country's many stations, concerts in high-traffic malls, and even downloadable ring tones on mobile phones.

John Hunt, Worldwide Creative Director of TBWA Worldwide and this year's Cannes Jury president for press, outdoor and film said that from the record number of entries, a small percentage makes it to the shortlist and even fewer are awarded Lions, "You have to be brilliant to win at Cannes" and added that "Great work gets noticed and the rest is wallpaper".

What it takes to win in Cannes - 'An original idea, beautifully crafted'



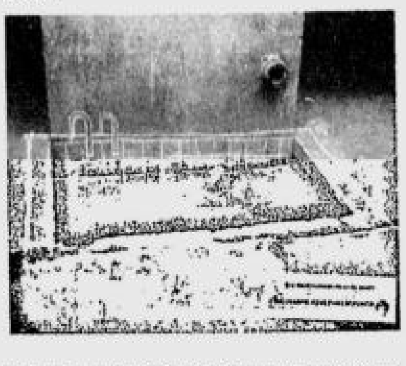
EMILY ABRERA
THE PHILIPPINES

Emily Abrera, chair emeritus, McCann-Erickson Philippines and the country's first jury member at Cannes, was one of only two women and six Asians in the press and outdoor 25-member jury. Being a first-timer in Cannes as a delegate and a judge, Abrera describes her experience. "I met many creative people from different countries, saw how we are similar and different, how diverse the cultures and perceptions are, how important it is to have a balance of men and women in the jury, how to make better sense of the judging process, 'rules of the game', importance of production quality and more." On judging the winners she said, "The work must be excellent but there's an element of luck too. It's tough but not impossible." After screening the 11,366 entries in press and outdoor, Abrera has hopes for the country. "Of the 60 percent of the top winners in press and outdoor, I believe the Philippines can produce work of that caliber." She also noted that in this global arena, "pride as a country far exceeds pride as agencies."

Some of the works that made it in the shortlist was "shocking (e.g. lots of blood or sexually explicit images), and in some cases chauvinistic" and being in a jury that is predominantly male, "the machismo ego of the male judges sometimes came into play in the selection". Abrera was able to pull in her weight as a woman and as a creative person, sometimes successfully weeding out the insensitive ads. Festival organizers have given assurance that they will be including more female judges next year.

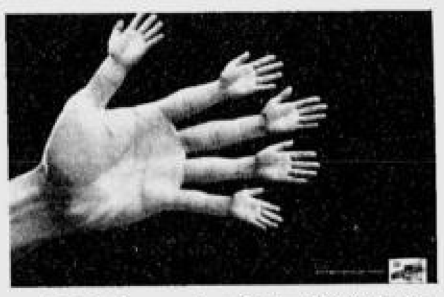
We are still on the hunt for a Cannes Lions medal in press and outdoor; this year again scoring only shortlists. Four Philippine advertising agencies made finalist status:

- **BBDO Guerrero Ortega** topped the tally in print with three shortlists for the public service print ads for Childhope Asia titled "Bed", "Pool" and "TV" developed by chief creative officer David Guerrero; head of art Joel Limchoc; creative director Raoul Panes and endorsed by client Dr. Teresa de Silva of Childhope Asia. A well-crafted campaign uses chalk drawings of a TV, bed and swimming pool on grimy street corners to draw attention to where homeless children sleep in Manila.

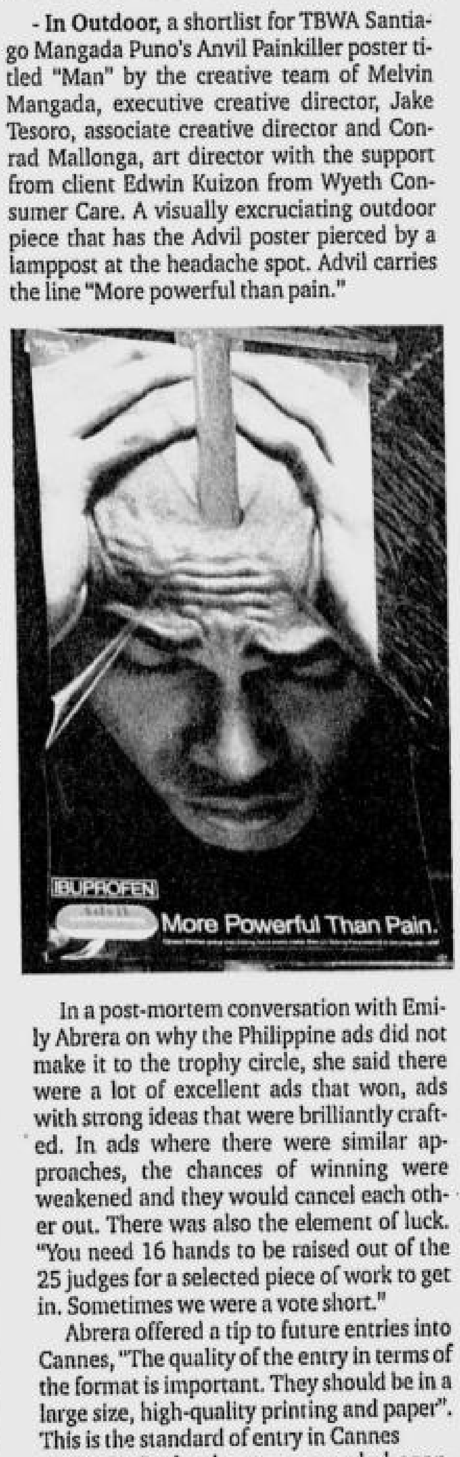


- **Hemisphere Leo Burnett** scored a shortlist for its Perla Detergent print ad "Lean on Me" credited to P&G's marketing team Harvey Ong and Claire Syson, executive creative director Richard Irvine; creative director Badong Abesamis; copywriters Farlet Vale and Joseph Dy III and art directors Farlet Vale and Joni Caparas. A subtle product benefit demonstration - a sleeping child leans over to the softer shoulder of the woman beside his mother.

- **Ace-Saatchi & Saatchi** for the Safeguard Soap "Hand" print work moved into the shortlist for print. Developed by creative director Eugene Demata for P&G client Jasmine Nicolas, "Hand" is a stunning single visual ad using a large hand with miniature hands on each fingertip emphasizing the point that hand washing is necessary to prevent germs from spreading.



- **In Outdoor**, a shortlist for TBWA Santiago Mangada Puno's Anvil Painkiller poster titled "Man" by the creative team of Melvin Mangada, executive creative director, Jake Tesoro, associate creative director and Conrad Mallonga, art director with the support from client Edwin Kuizon from Wyeth Consumer Care. A visually excruciating outdoor piece that has the Advil poster pierced by a lamppost at the headache spot. Advil carries the line "More powerful than pain."



In a post-mortem conversation with Emily Abrera on why the Philippine ads did not make it to the trophy circle, she said there were a lot of excellent ads that won, ads with strong ideas that were brilliantly crafted. In ads where there were similar approaches, the chances of winning were weakened and they would cancel each other out. There was also the element of luck. "You need 16 hands to be raised out of the 25 judges for a selected piece of work to get in. Sometimes we were a vote short."

Abrera offered a tip to future entries into Cannes, "The quality of the entry in terms of the format is important. They should be in a large size, high-quality printing and paper". This is the standard of entry in Cannes

TBWA/Paris, the most awarded agency at the festival and this year's Agency of the Year, won the Print Grand Prix for the campaign against music piracy for client EMI. The ad series is "a combination of original thought and magnificent art direction" and "an appeal to one's

Continued next page

CANNES INSIGHTS

Be Personal, say Global Advertisers

By Celine R. Madamba

WITH new media and wireless technology giving people multiple media choices and 24/7 connections, the need to "personalize" marketing initiatives has never been more relevant as it is today.

This observation was made during the recently concluded 52nd annual Cannes International Advertising Festival, where thousands of marketing and advertising professionals convened for the world's most prestigious advertising awards.

According to Paul Bennett, Proximity Worldwide's head of international clients, today's consumers "don't want to be treated as a segment but as individuals."

He noted that the move towards greater personalization is especially evident with the emergence of PVR services and a new generation of mobile devices that allow consumers to watch, listen, store images, get and stay connected, share and communicate messages when, where and how they choose.

As a result, personalization, which involves instant gratification, self-expression, participation, interaction and personal entertainment, are fast becoming key to effectively connecting and communicating with consumers in this digital world.

Doing so, however, requires targeting active brand players; respecting people's privacy; providing personally relevant content; adding value through entertainment and creativity; and amplifying mobile and cyber campaigns through other media.

Today, new media is impacting the lives of millions. China, which is the seventh largest advertising market in the world, has more than 500 million cellular phone users with the Internet being the current platform of choice for the country's 15 to 24 year olds.

Research conducted by Proximity in 15 markets reveals that the cellular phone "commands a unique and significant place in people's hearts." Twice as many people would choose to keep their cellular phones over their TV; a vast majority keep their cellular phones on 24/7; and cellular phones are increasingly viewed as status symbols.

According to Sue Moseley, managing director of Initiative Innovations North America, these "seismic" changes in new technology have not only transformed the media landscape but have also changed the "balance of power" from the advertiser to the consumer.

"Five years ago, teenagers would have been watching whatever happened to be on TV. Today, they are increasingly empowered by blogs and reading product and company reviews on the Internet."

In fact, 80 percent of purchases in the United States are now preceded by the purchaser using the Internet to check out their future purchase. Meanwhile, PVR services such as TiVo, Sky+ and MaLigne TV are helping consumers make choices and block out unwanted messages.

TS Kelly, global director of research at Media Contacts, suggests that advertisers and advertising agencies create more interesting ways to target consumers, "otherwise, you get a situation where the consumer resists. And that's a battle you can never win."

With consumers constantly bombarded with information at high speed and the continuous development and marketing of products and services, advertising has become extremely competitive. Disney, for example, now releases and markets a new product every five minutes.

According to professor Luc Wathieu of Harvard Business School, an acknowledged expert on the effect on advertising on consumers, this has resulted in growing anxiety and negative perceptions among consumers, as well as resistance to intrusiveness and lack of relevance.

In light of these observations, marketers must continue to focus on two key elements in their advertising: emotional relevance and effective contact points with consumers.

"Our job is to understand what people value and to communicate that through the medium that works," said Rory Sutherland, executive creative director and vice chair of OgilvyOne London.

"Today, very few high-street pitches are now based on need," observed Sutherland. "Most of it is emotional." He cited Harley Davidson and Volkswagen as advertisers that routinely use sentiment, nostalgia and emotion to hit their targets.

Alan Cohen, executive vice president and managing director of Initiative Innovations North America believes that today's ads will "need spark to catch fire and benefit from word of mouth. They will have to provide a deeper experience so the consumer remembers, and must be integrated with everything that the consumer does."

"It's all about getting the right content to the right person at the right time via the right new medium," stated Bennett.

One way to do this is by connecting with consumers at points of purchase or at points that allow them direct access and interaction with the brand.

Jim Lucas, Draft's retail ecologist and Shelley Lanman, Draft New York chief creative officer, agree that retail advertising is most effective in the stores. "Influence where people shop and you might effect what they buy," said Lucas.

"With stores now the most prevalent of institutions across the world and 80 percent of buying decisions being made in-store, marketers have to act fast in order to understand how to change consumer behavior in the retail space or they'll be left behind."

According to the Euromonitor/CIA World Fact Book, there are 58 million retail establishments worldwide. The annual spending across the sector is close to $8 trillion.

"Shopping is one of the most common activities in the world," stated Lucas, "and the truth is that, although marketers are able to reach people through a number of media, if you want to make them act, you'd better try to influence them in-store."

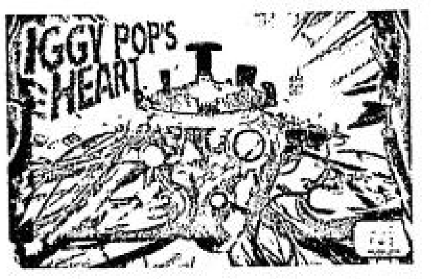
Traditional stores, according to Lanman, are not the only ones undergoing transformation. Banks and car dealerships are also experiencing change. "No longer can a bank assume that consumers will come inside, conduct their transactions and leave. Banks are making their transactions easier than ever and redesigning lobbies in order to make them more a destination than a quick stop on the chore list."

In this digital, fast-paced world of global advertising, it is no longer enough to ride the wave of technology and promote compelling and emotional messages. Advertising today must recognize the consumer as an individual and must be integrated with his or her lifestyle. Our message at Cannes this year: Be Personal.

Global Success in Reach of Local Ad Industry

From page B2-2

love of music and the musician behind it", said John Hunt, jury president. The copy reads, "Nothing great comes easy. Please respect artists. Stop Music Piracy"."



In the outdoor advertising category, Ogilvy & Mather Santiago, Chile won the Grand Prix for Lego. An eye-catching outdoor execution where a building is made to look like it was made out of Lego blocks with one gigantic architectural detail—a missing bit of the Lego block in the middle of the building.

The most anticipated part of the festival, the Film Awards Ceremony, signaled the end of the festival. Here, the Philippines scored its first Cannes Lions in mainstream advertising - a Silver Lion for BBDO Guerrero Ortega's two-and-a-half minute TV commercial titled "Bunso". This emotional spot moved the audience at Cannes. The documentary-style TV spot shows a minor giving a walking tour of the jail. It had disturbing scenes of the struggle of children who have to co-exist with adult detainees in overcrowded jails. The commercial used footage from the award-winning documentary, also titled "Bunso", by filmmaker Ditsi Carolino. It ends with the call for support and passage of the Juvenile Justice Law.

John Hunt, jury head, said in the Film Winners press conference, that the TV commercial from the Philippines was in a category by itself and one of "the most emotional" in the competition. "Bunso" may have won a Silver Lion at Cannes in one of the toughest categories in the competition but for clients Consuelo Foundation and Unicef, the appeal for action is ongoing with the bill still waiting to be passed. Ray Salvosa, managing director of Consuelo Foundation, said of the recognition, "It is an affirmation of the importance of the critical task of developing humane treatment programs for all children in conflict with the law". Dale Rutstein is the client from Unicef.

David Guerrero, chair and chief creative director of BBDO Guerrero Ortega, Philippines' first delegate in Cannes in 1997, a Cannes Gold Lion winner for the regional FedEx "Box" print ad done out of BBDO Thailand in 2001, Philippines' first speaker at Cannes in the Asian Diversity seminar, is this year's Silver Lion winner for the country. Guerrero dedicated the win "to the children now languishing in adult jails, may this help efforts to reform the law", and secondly, to the people in the country's communications industries, "may this inspire us all to greater things." David Ferrer was art director on the commercial and agency producer was Jeng Gambol.

Lowe Philippines registered a shortlist in the Film category for client Monde Nissin for the Fita Biscuit "Drill Sergeant" TV commercial. This selection was made from 4,996 TV entries from 74 countries. The creatives behind the TV spot from Lowe are Raul Castro, VP-executive creative Director; Joel Banzil, art director; and Mel Orlina, copywriter. The agency also achieved a Cannes shortlist two years ago for the same client with the Fita "Best Friends" TV commercial. Kudos to Fita clients, Rufi Tiam Lee, Melissa Pabustan and Victor Gutierrez.

Wieden & Kennedy London's Honda "Grrr" TV commercial topped the Film Awards. The delightful animated commercial featured "a flock of diesel engines flying playfully among flora and fauna" set to a Garrison Keillor track, "Can Hate Be Good". Change the old air-polluting diesel engines that we all hate to cleaner diesel engines. The TV spot went beyond the idea and latched on to a philosophy for life - hate could be a positive thing if it made things better.

The inaugural Radio Lions competition where Philippines had 16 entries was thought to be an easier category to score in. But not this year. Tony Hertz, a radio jury member, said that "the Philippines and other countries had many ideas that were on par with much of the western work. But the work needs to achieve a level of production - casting, performance, and direction - which competes with the best US, South African and UK material—less about budget than approach, care, and tone of voice."

Grand Prix for Radio went to "Men of Real Genius" radio campaign from DDB Chicago for Bud Light Beer. The humorous radio campaign, a pool of 11 radio commercials, celebrated the American anti-heroes such as the "Sports Heckler", "Discount Airline Pilot Guy", and the "Cargo Pants Designer.

Sony Computer Entertainment (SCE) was named Advertiser of the Year honoring PlayStation's creative and innovative advertising. PlayStation has won an impressive 26 Cannes Lions including three Grand Prix.

In assessing this year's winners, John Hunt, jury head, said that he did not see a definitive trend but that more humor is back in advertising. He added that, "technically, I think there is a creative crutch emerging, where there is over-engineered work in which postproduction becomes the idea." The best ads are those "with an original idea, beautifully expressed".

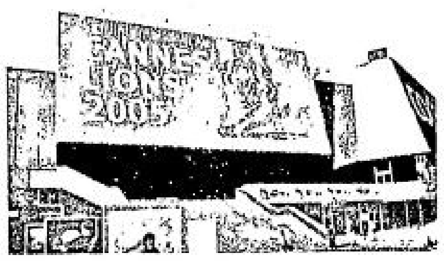
The Philippines is still behind our Asian neighbors in Cannes. Japan, Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia have each taken home many Cannes Lions. These countries have consciously been benchmarking themselves with the rest of the world and have learned to reach global standards. The Philippines, an industry source said, "needs to be less insular" and look outside in order to be globally competitive.

To view and appreciate all the Cannes Lions winners, log on to www.canneslions.com

This year at Cannes marked a year of many firsts for the country - our first Silver Cannes Lion winner in Film in the festival's 52 year history; the first Filipino judge at Cannes; the first time Filipino clients ever graced Cannes; and the first time the country sent a team to take part in the Young Creatives Competition, plus our most number of entries and delegates. All signs that we are opening our doors.

We did win a Lions Direct Bronze in 2003 for the direct marketing campaign "Dos por Dos" which was aimed to raise funds to help stop animal abuse. BCD Pinpoint, one of the country's leading direct marketing firms, won the bronze.

Philippine Daily Inquirer, the country's leading newspaper and the official country representative at the Cannes Advertising Festival was instrumental in giving the local ad industry the push it needed. The Inquirer hosted last year's groundbreaking event for the industry called "Cannes in Manila" with activities centered around the Lion hunt. And, very importantly, the nomination of our first Philippine judge into the jury.



Philippine Daily Inquirer, the country's leading newspaper and the official country representative at the Cannes Advertising Festival, was instrumental in giving the local ad industry the push it needed. The Inquirer hosted last year's groundbreaking event for the industry called 'Cannes in Manila' with activities centered around the Lion hunt.

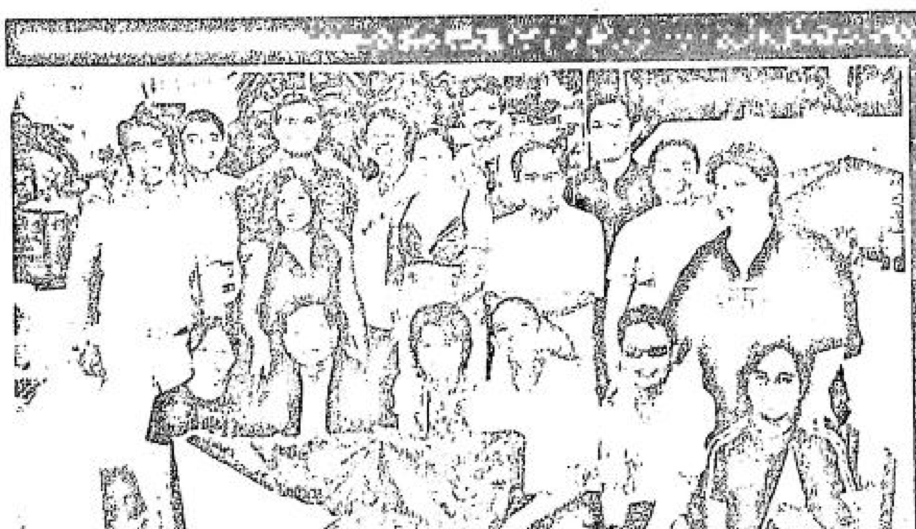
Majestic Cocktails in Cannes

THE SUN in the south of France continues to shine well past 9 in the evening during the summer. Perfect time for Philippine Daily Inquirer, the country's festival representative to the Cannes Advertising Festival, to host an evening cocktail at the poolside of the Majestic Barriere Hotel located along the famous French coastline cote d'azur. Inquirer's way of celebrating Philippines' presence at the world's largest advertising event.

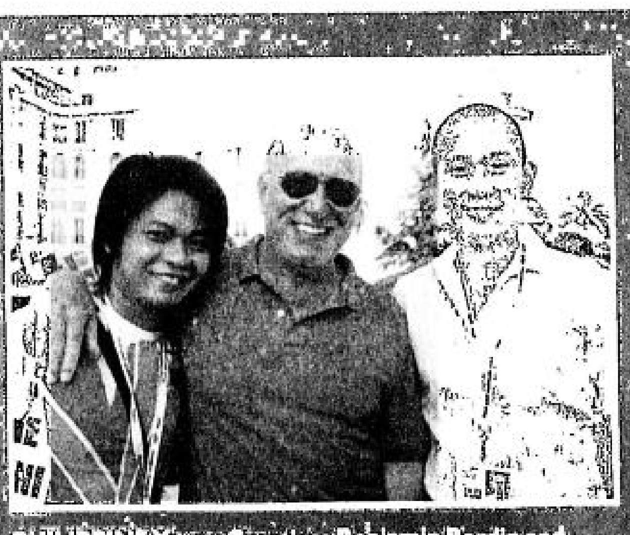
Guests to the cozy cocktails were Philippine delegates in Cannes all from the country's top advertising agencies and clients, as well as dignitaries from the world's advertising community who took time out from their hectic Cannes [illegible] namely Neil French, former worldwide creative director of Ogilvy & Mather, now worldwide creative consultant of WPP its holding company; Craig Davis, worldwide creative director of JWT with his wife Jo Davis; Piyush Pandey, last year's Cannes Jury president and multi-awarded regional creative director of Ogilvy & Mather India. From this year's prestigious jury, Tony Hertz, a Radio Lions jury member with his wife Quito Colayco, and Prasoon Joshi, regional creative director of McCann-Erickson Asia-Pacific who was part of the press and outdoor jury.

On the news front, editors from Asia's leading advertising, media and marketing magazines also joined the party. Sharon Desker Shaw, editor in chief of Media Magazine, published out of Hong Kong; Australian-based Kim Shaw, editor of Campaign Brief Asia; and from Malaysia, Ham Singh, regional editor of Adoi Magazine and the new Brand Digest.

[illegible] from the Philippine Daily Inquirer were Rene Reinoso, VP for sales and marketing, Felipe Olarte, VP for advertising and contributing columnist [illegible]. Filipino guests included Emily Abrera, chair emeritus, McCann-Erickson and the Philippines' first judge in Cannes; David Guerrero, chair and chief creative officer, BBDO Guerrero Ortega, and the Philippines' first silver Lion winner; Patrick [illegible], president and CEO, McCann-Erickson; [illegible], president and CEO Lowe Philippines; Jimmy Santiago, [illegible] ner, TBWA Santiago Mangada Puno with wife Ching Santiago; Melvin Mangada, executive creative director, TBWA Santiago Mangada Puno; Teeny Gonzales, VP and executive creative director, Harrison Communications with husband Third Gonzales; [illegible], creative director, TBWA Santiago Mangada Puno; Raoul Panes, creative director BBDO Guerrero Ortega; Frances Pons Ramos, creative group head, Lowe Philippines; Joel Limchoc, head of art, BBDO Guerrero Ortega; Mondo Armedilla, art director, Publicis Manila; Young Creatives Carlos Antonio Jimenez, copywriter and Benjamin Berdin Jr.; [illegible], country media manager of Procter & Gamble [illegible]



THE CANNES gang at the Majestic Hotel poolside in Cannes. Front row, Frances Ramos of Lowe, Felipe Olarte of Inquirer, Benjamin Berdin of [illegible], Carlos Jimenez of [illegible], Mondo Armedilla of Publicis Manila and Joel Limchoc of BBDO Guerrero Ortega. [illegible] second row, Melvin Mangada of TBWA Santiago Mangada Puno, Angel Guerrero, [illegible] of Lowe, Jimmy Santiago of TBWA Santiago Mangada Puno, Teeny Gonzales of Harrison Communications and [illegible] of TBWA Santiago Mangada Puno. Standing back row, Renato Reinoso of Inquirer, David Guerrero of BBDO Guerrero Ortega, Emily Abrera of McCann-Erickson, Jun Vivar of Unilab and Raoul Panes of BBDO Guerrero Ortega.



PHILIPPINE Young Creatives Benjamin Berdin and Carlos Jimenez finally get to meet their idol Neil French, one of the icons of the world's ad industry.

BASKING in sunshine, Melvin Mangada, Ted Royen, Angel Guerrero, Neil French and Jimmy Santiago.

OUT TO party are Prasoon Joshi of McCann-Erickson Asia-Pacific, Piyush Pandey of Ogilvy India, Rene Reinoso of Inquirer, Kim Shaw of Campaign Brief Asia, Neil French of WPP and one of the ad world's most famous celebrities, Felipe Olarte of Inquirer, David Guerrero of BBDO and Jun Vivar of Unilab.

The miracle of teamwork

A LEADER'S WAY

John C. Maxwell

THEY called it the "Miracle on Ice."

Twenty-five years ago, a team of American college hockey players overcame seemingly insurmountable odds to beat the heavily favored Soviet team—and, soon thereafter—win the gold medal at the 1980 Winter Olympics.

Another team that sent the country—or at least the part of the country that enjoys professional basketball-into a frenzy was the 1995-96 Chicago Bulls.

Led by Michael Jordan, Scottie Pippen and Dennis Rodman, this team posted the best regular-season NBA record of all time (72-10) and went on to defeat the Seattle SuperSonics in the 1996 NBA Finals.

The 1980 US hockey team and the 1995-96 Chicago Bulls were quite dissimilar.

One was made up of little-known amateurs; the other of superstar professionals. One was a significant underdog; the other was a dominant force all year.

Despite these and other differences, however, both could easily show up on a list of the greatest sports teams in American history.

Inspiring teamwork

The way these two groups of players melded together to reach their goals is inspiring, especially for people who value teamwork as much as I do.

Individually, none of them—even the immensely talented Michael Jordan—could have accomplished what they did together.

They needed each other to succeed.

As obvious as it seems to me now, I didn't fully grasp the importance of teamwork until I was 40.

When I began to evaluate the first half of my life, I got discouraged because I realized I had not achieved what I wanted to accomplish thus far. Although I had concentrated on developing myself, I had not focused enough on building a great team.

That, I concluded, was a major mistake—one that had kept me from reaching my full potential.

Life-changing realization

At 40, I realized that my success wasn't going to be determined by my gifts, my abilities or my opportunities. It was going to be determined by my ability to develop a great team.

This realization was so life-changing that it birthed one of my 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership—the Law of the Inner Circle-which says those who are closest to you determine the level of your success.

Ever since then, developing my team been my No. 1 priority.

Even today—more than 16 years later-I devote more energy, more time and more resources to growing my inner circle than to anything else.

The results are well worth the effort because of what my team does for me.

1. My team makes me better than I am. If the members of my team were here, they'd tell you the same thing.

2. My team multiplies my value to others. These people don't add to my worth when it comes to contributing to others; they multiply it greatly.

3. My team enables me to do what I do best. Because the members of my inner circle complement me and do things I don't do well, I am able to focus on the things that I can do well.

4. My team allows me to help others do their best. Having a team allows me to move people around until they're in what I call their "sweet spot" or "strength zone"-the place where talent meets passion, resulting in fulfillment and excellence.

5. My team gives me more time. Without this group of trusted colleagues, I'd have to do everything by myself—or at least keep a close eye on it all. With a great team, others can shoulder key responsibilities, freeing me up to concentrate on my top priorities.

6. My team provides me with companionship. I'm happy to say that some of my best friends are my team players.

7. My team helps me to fulfill the desires of my heart. Not only that, but they help me fulfill them in a way that often far exceeds my expectations.

8. My team compounds my vision and my effort. When you're surrounded by a great group of people, the well-known acronym for TEAM really is true: Together Everyone Achieves More.

Catch John Maxwell live in Manila this July 22-23! For tickets or information on Maxwell's in-house leadership programs, please e-mail maxwell@inspire.ph or text or call 0920-9519618 and 813-2732/03.

A record performance.

Equitable PCI Bank. Your Bank of Choice.

Equitable PCI Bank posted a remarkable performance in 2004, a result of dedicated and extraordinary effort by the Bank to improve products, services and distribution network, and ensure financial health and profitability. Such performance is nothing short of what investors, depositors, partners and shareholders expect – truly worthy of being your Bank of Choice.

- Net income grew 39% over the previous year to a record P1.8 billion – the highest in six years
- Total resources rose 7% to P310 billion, deposits were up 4% to P194 billion and net loans expanded 14% to P138 billion
- Capital increased 5% to P41.4 billion with capital adequacy ratio at 14.3% which is comfortably above the regulatory minimum of 10%
- Cash dividends of P436 million were declared, resuming a practice of returning excess capital to shareholders
- The Bank's share price had nearly doubled to P48 over three years, representing a compounded annual return to shareholders of 25% compared to the Phisix's 16% rise from 2001 to 2004
- Our credit card subsidiary retained its lending position in the industry, achieving a 16% increase in cardholder base and 22% hike in billings
- PCI Leasing and Finance maintained its dominance in the leasing and finance sector with a 37% surge in net income and 46% expansion in total resources
- Our remittance unit sustained its major industry ranking with a 16% increase in pure OFW remittances – the second year in a row of above industry growth
- Our Trust Banking group grew total assets under management to over P100 billion, strengthening its position as the country's third largest asset manager

Equitable PCI BANK
Your Bank of Choice
Contact our Call Center at 84-911 (Metro Manila)
PLDT 1-800-188-84-911 and Digitel 1-800-333-84-911 (Provincial)
visit www.equitablepcib.com

Leaders Does Philippines SUPERBRAND 200

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum Deposit Insurance for Each Depositor ₱250,000.

THE NEW GENERATION SONATA
Iconic.
SONATA

The 4th Generation Sonata was recognized in 2004 as the Highest Ranked Entry-level Midsize Car by the J.D. Power & Associates Initial Quality Study.

Photos may vary from actual units and accessories.

Exclusive distributor of Hyundai
Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc.
www.myhyundai.com.ph

HYUNDAI ALABANG - Tel: (02) 800-1771, (02) 800-7344 • HYUNDAI COMMONWEALTH - Tel Nos. 951-2201 to 10, (02) 932-0428 • HYUNDAI E. RODRIGUEZ SR. AVE. - Tel: (02) 722-0932, (02) 722-0936 to 37, (02) 727-6304, (02) 413-1848 • HYUNDAI EDSA - Tel. (02) 882-2432 to 33, (02) 882-2588 • HYUNDAI MAKATI - Tel: (02) 830-0013 to 17 • HYUNDAI ORTIGAS - Tel. (02) 723-9101 to 07 • HYUNDAI QUEZON AVENUE - Tel (02) 374-3911, (02) 411-2720 • HYUNDAI BACOLOD - Tel (034) 433-3510, (034) 435-0208, (034) 434-2907, (034) 435-3888, (034) 434-0051 to 52 • HYUNDAI CABANATUAN - Tel (044) 464-2878, (044) 600-1657, (044) 463-5428, (044) 600-1737 • HYUNDAI CAGAYAN DE ORO - Tel: (088) 855-4406 to 07 • HYUNDAI CEBU - Tel: (032) 346-2724, (032) 346-0187, (032) 345-4146, (032) 345-0324 • HYUNDAI DAGUPAN - Tel (075) 522-8888, Fax. (075) 515-2255 • HYUNDAI ILOILO - Tel: (033) 320-7020, (033) 508-8878, (033) 320-4106, (033) 320-2069, (033) 320-2248 • HYUNDAI LA UNION - Tel. (072) 712-1212, (072) 712-8887 to 89, (0922) 310-2310 • HYUNDAI LAGUNA - Tel (049) 411-5650, (049) 511-8161, (02) 520-8211, (02) 520-8250 • HYUNDAI PAMPANGA - Tel: (045) 961-1184, (045) 961-3977 • HYUNDAI SOUTHERN MINDANAO - Tel: (082) 235-2055, (082) 305-0000, (082) 345-2118 • Soon to open: HYUNDAI BALINTAWAK and HYUNDAI CAVITE

HYUNDAI
Drive your way

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph

BUSINESS Monday

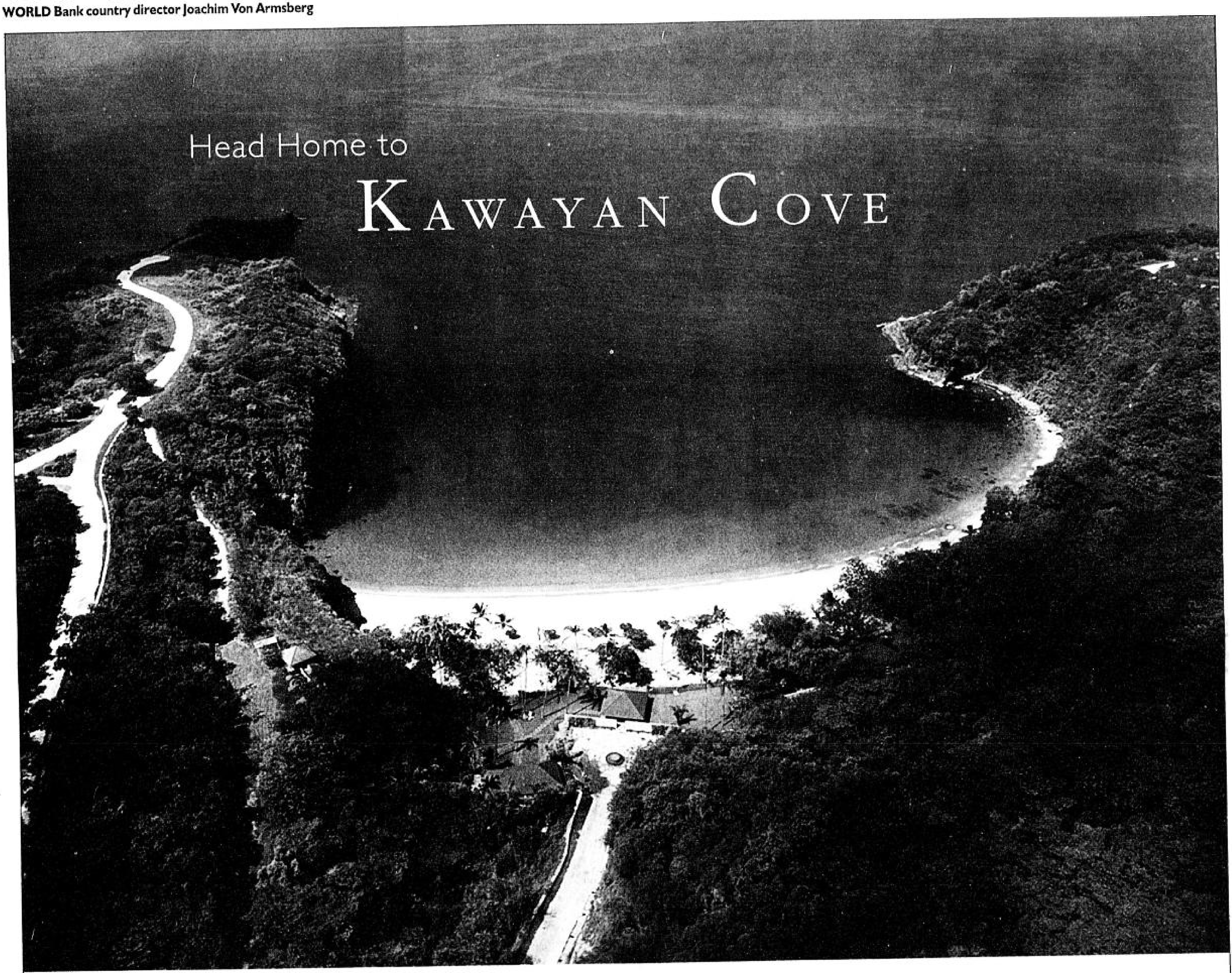
Business Features Editor **Margie Quimpo-Espino**

RUDY ESPERAS

WORLD Bank country director Joachim Von Armsberg

RP has ingredients for economic success, but. . .

STORY ON PAGE B3-2



Actual shot of Bamboo Beach, Nasugbu, Batangas

The name Bamboo Beach has an almost mythic ring to it. Many people have heard stories about it, but only a few have ever set foot on its natural white sands.

Kawayan Cove is the exclusive residential enclave on the verdant slopes that surround the fabled beach.

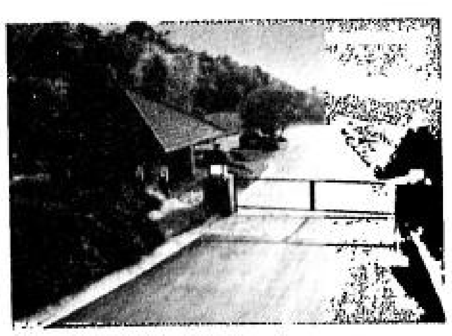
For generations, only the owners have had homes at this legendary locale. Now you can be one of the few who head home to Kawayan Cove.

KAWAYAN COVE
Bamboo Beach, Nasugbu, Batangas

845-1581 • 843-9136 / 37
www.kawayancove.com

KAWAYAN COVE

Undoubtedly the most exclusive and private seaside residential community in Nasugbu, Batangas.



This is where adventure starts - the entrance to Kawayan Cove.

The name Bamboo Beach has an almost mythic ring to it. Many people have heard stories about this fabled locale but only a few have ever set foot on its natural white sands. A spectacular 650 meter crescent on the western coast of the Batangas shoreline, it is protected from the prying eyes of the outside world by twin headlands.

Surrounding this secluded retreat is a 61-hectare private enclave known as Kawayan Cove. It is composed of a limited number of prime residential lots, ranging from 500 to 2,000 square meters, situated on dramatic slopes between shore and summit. The highest elevation is 127 meters above sea level, providing homeowners with a breathtaking view of the South China Sea. For those who are environment-conscious, the good news is that the cove is a sanctuary for natural vegetation and existing fauna.

Luxuriate in the comfort of modern seaside living

Kawayan Cove artfully blends the natural and the man-made. All the homes in this residential seaside community are envisioned to merge subtly with the lush, tropical environment. World-class facilities have been designed to complement a sacred approach to nature. Land, sea and cultural heritage are safeguarded to enrich the community, thus making Kawayan Cove truly priceless. A weekend getaway, a summer haven and a luxurious, secluded second home, Kawayan Cove makes living an ideal idyll.

This isn't Bali - this is a bridge leading to one of the tranquil spots in Bamboo Beach.

Since development began in 2002, progress has been steady. So far, 75% of road networks and subterranean cabled utilities have been completed. The first several residents have begun construction on their future abodes. Facilities like the Meditation Point and the Bamboo Beach Club structures such as the Welcome Pavilion, Beach Pavilion, Bamboo Bar and Beach Bath Houses have all been completed. Coming soon is the inauguration of the Sports and Recreation Area, where residents can enjoy the kiddie pool, the children's playground, picnic grove, barbecue area, tennis court and basketball court. Anticipation is riding high on the availability of more view lots in Phase 3.

Introducing
Premier 1

It's all you need in a premium checking account!

- Higher Interest Rates
- Easy Reconciliation
- Automatic Fund Transfers
- Special Discounts & Privileges
- FREE Personal Accident Insurance

MEGALINK
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation.
Maximum Deposit Insurance of Each Depositor P250,000.

For the Branch nearest you, call 521-7451. Or visit us at www.maybank2u.com

Maybank

RP has ingredients for economic success, but. . .

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

IT DID not take long for World Bank country director Joachim Von Amsberg to realize that the Philippines had all the ingredients for economic success.

It has a wealth of natural resources, a large pool of skilled and English-speaking labor and a working democracy.

Which then left Von Amsberg, who has only been in the country for a year, confused.

If the Philippines had so many things going for it, then why wasn't it the fast-growing country it could—and should—be?

The Philippines was even moving in the opposite direction.

While neighboring countries in East Asia have found the will and the means to pull more of their citizens out of poverty, more Filipino families are now living on less than $2 a day.

And all the available data show that the trend is getting worse, rather than better.

"It is disappointing," Von Amsberg says in a recent discussion with the INQUIRER business staff.

In the struggle to understand the deep contrast between the Philippines' rich potential and its "modest" gains, the World Bank team in the Philippines came to a conclusion: It's not the people, resources nor the private sector.

VON AMSBERG

RUDY ESPERAS

Weakened social contract

Rather, the Philippines has lagged so far behind the neighbors it used to dwarf because of the weakening of the "social contract" between the people and their government.

"It appears to be the failure of many public institutions to work for the common good—weak governance, corruption, inefficiency," Von Amsberg says.

The social contract says that people in government will work to provide services that the people deserve, in exchange for the power and the taxes they have at their disposal.

Cynics would laugh and say that such a contract does not exist—a mere figment of an idealist's imagination. Precious few would disagree.

For one thing, many government officials at the local and national level make it appear that they own infrastructure projects, by emblazoning their names all over roads and bridges.

Not even the waiting sheds and trash cans are spared from these garish reminders.

What they fail to say is that the money spent on those projects did not come from their pure leather wallets, but from the worn pockets of the ranks of the fixed-income earners, whose income taxes were so quickly and religiously deducted from their salaries.

That Filipinos do not take to the streets to demand the service they paid their government officials for shows how weak the vital contract has become.

"The social contract is extremely weak in the Philippines. That is why many do not invest in government, because they feel they are not getting the services they deserve," Von Amsberg says.

Islands of good gov't

But there is hope.

He said the World Bank has found many "islands of good government," where the social contract is alive and working. Carved in stone, so to speak.

These are local government units, bureaus of government agencies, private sector firms and civil society members that are doing what they are supposed to, efficiently and without fanfare.

For these "islands," doing good is its own reward.

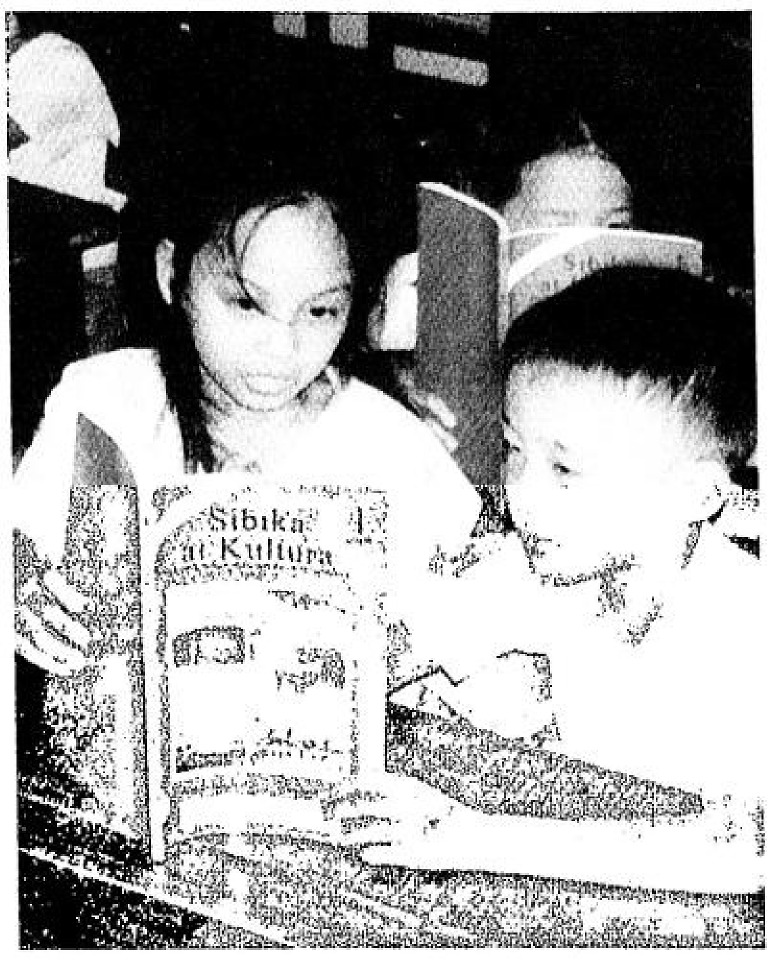
In the area of education, World Bank cited the Brigada Eskwela program, a joint venture among school officials, parents, local community and private donors to repair dilapidated physical facilities in public schools.

The Adopt-A-School program, where the private sector helps in the upgrading and modernization of the education system in poorest provinces, was also deemed worthy of emulation.

In energy, Von Amsberg says the rural electrification program was a good practice as scarce public resources were leveraged to attract and complement private sector investments, particularly in rural electric cooperatives suffering from lack of funds.

In water, the World Bank cited efforts to combine municipal water districts that have led to better service and lower rates for the public.

Von Amsberg said the World Bank is committed to putting its resources behind these "islands," to make these shining examples for the rest of the government, and prevent them from being swallowed by the sea of corruption.



THE WORLD Bank has found many "islands of good governance" in the public education sector.

For a long time, the World Bank's solution to problems of governance was to devise an entirely new process or set up a separate agency to replace that which is not working.

This approach did not elicit the results that the World Bank envisioned to fulfill its mission to help accelerate growth and empower the poor.

Dream world

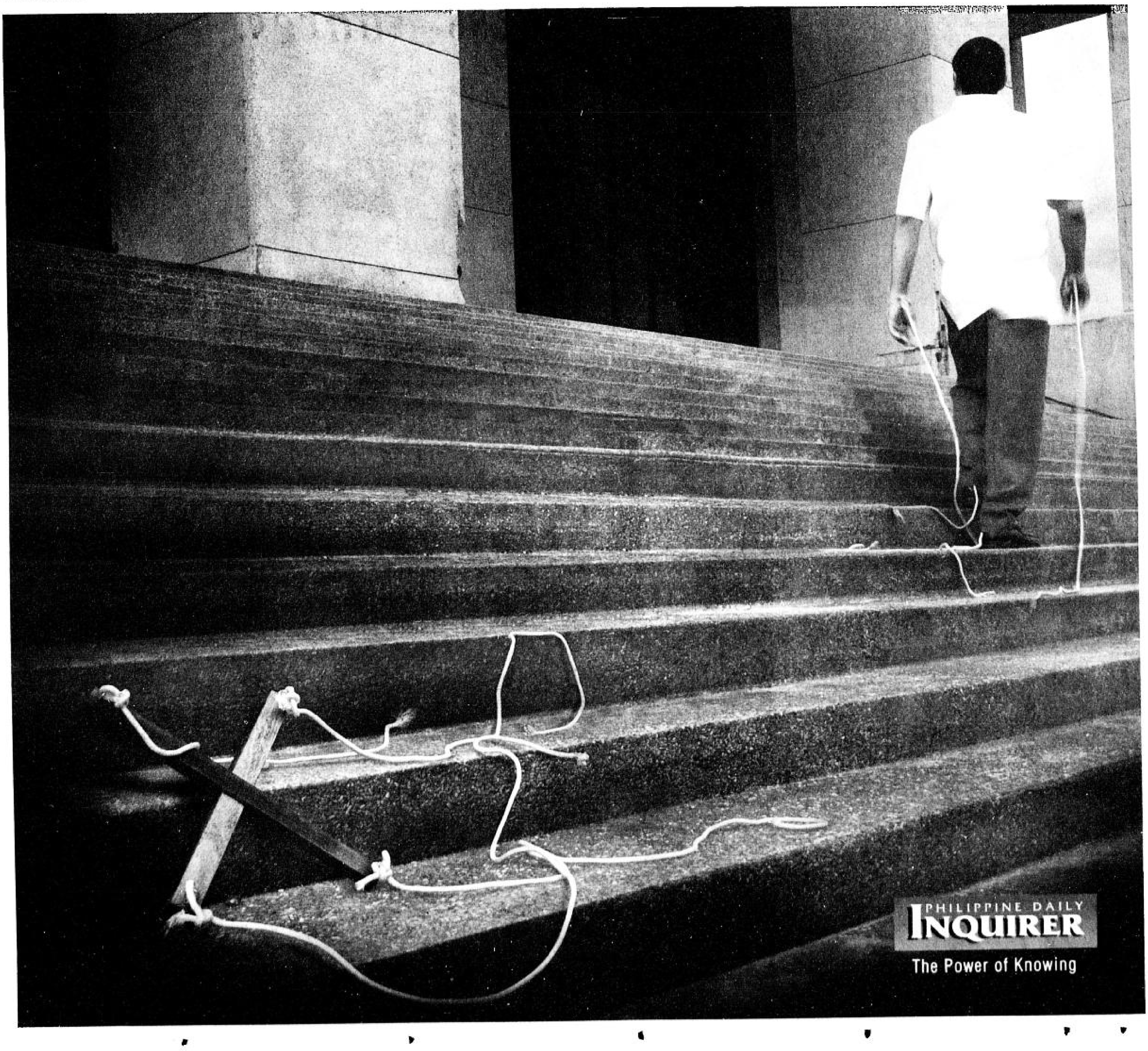
In many cases, the "dream world" that the World Bank helped create collapsed almost as soon as the financing dried up, thus the change in the World Bank's global development approach.

Over the next few years, Von Amsberg says the World Bank will align its efforts with those "islands of good governance" that actually deliver on their promises, in the hope that the gains can be replicated.

"There is a change in the paradigm on how we finance projects. Now, we will look at good projects and find how we can help make them better," he says. "I believe we will make more of a difference if we protect and sustain systems that work, and empower the right people and institutions."

Von Amsberg says how these institutions actually deliver services as provided in their social contract may be far from ideal—at least from the World Bank's point of view—but the fact that they work is enough reason to get the World Bank's support.

"We want to partner with them, learn from them. Our dream is that one day, the Philippines will be seen as THE islands of good governance," Von Amsberg adds.



'Going from a good to a great CEO'

MAPPING THE FUTURE

Franco G. del Rosario

THE TITLE of this article is the theme of a CEO Summit co-presented by the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP) and the Management Association of the Philippines (MAP) on Aug. 4 at the Makati Shangri-La.

Are you a good CEO and want to become a great CEO? Are you a great CEO and want to be sure you remain a great CEO? Are you aspiring to be a CEO one day, or just want to better understand the CEO of your firm?

Jim Collins, author of the bestseller "Built To Last—Successful Habits of Visionary Companies" in his latest bestseller "Good To Great," talks about the environment as constantly changing causing firms to be off course unless it is being steered by right people, particularly, the right CEO.

Changing environment

Examples of these would be: globalization, deregulation, new products, new competitors, technological breakthroughs, etc. How about examples in the Philippine setting? These would be: fiscal crisis, energy crisis, social crisis, political crisis, military crisis, etc.

With all the things around us changing, what we know may not be enough to get us through the rapidly changing times ahead. Consider this scenario. We are a great executive now but we are not doing anything about raising standards. On the other hand, executives inside and outside of our industry are constantly raising standards. In this scenario, it may not be long that we would find ourselves as a mediocre executive.

Level 5 leader

If you are looking for your firm's stock price to beat the Philippine Stock Exchange Index (just like Collins' 11 GTG firms that beat the average US stock market by seven times for 15 consecutive years) it would be imperative for you to develop as many level 5 leaders in your firm as possible. What does "level 5" leader mean? Collins formulated a five-level hierarchy of executive capabilities, with level 5 at the top. He found every good-to-great company has level 5 leaders. Below in Collins' words is how he explains level 5 leaders.

1) "Level 5 leaders embody a paradoxical mix of personal humility and professional will."

2) "Level 5 leaders display a compelling modesty, self-effacing and understated."

3) "Level 5 leaders are fanatically driven, infected with an incurable need to produce results."

4) "Level 5 leaders display a workmanlike diligence."

With the changing environment, one thing "level 5" leaders all the more do diligently is disciplined hiring and firing. This is what Collins calls "get right people on the bus and get wrong people off the bus." Many people refer to these principles as, "easier said than done."

'Good is not good enough'

In these turbulent times, Philippine business executives need to have professional will, a unique trait of what Collins called "level 5" leaders. One good example of professional will is George V. Cain. He was at one time the CEO of Abbott Laboratories; one of the 11 GTG companies. Cain said, "Good is not good enough. I want to find out what is holding back Abbott from being a great company." When he was certain that "nepotism" was holding back Abbott from being a great company, he fired the Abbott family members that were holding key positions in the company.

The PMAP and MAP have teamed up to bring you in one day real stories of real companies who will discuss key topics that you would want to know more about, as follows: The CEO Challenges Today, Strategic Thinking, Succession Planning, Talent Management, Engaging Stakeholders, Turnaround Strategies and Crisis Management.

For more information, call the MAP secretariat at 751-1151 to 52, or the PMAP secretariat at 726-1518, 726-1532, 726-1588 or email me at "francodelrosario@pldtdsl.net." See you there!

(The author is co-chair of the MAP CEO conference committee and managing consultant and Six Sigma Consulting. Feedback at mapsec@globenet.com.ph)

Coconet venture ...

From page B3-4

dom Award in the ongoing 2005 World Expo in Aichi, Japan.

Also in June, the Coconet bagged the prestigious Global 100 Eco-tech Awards which the organizers of the World Expo gave out to stress and promote the role of technology in sustainable development and protection of the environment.

Arboleda's coco coir geotextile nets are attracting not only awards but an increasing market.

The technology is now being used in Sri Lanka, India, China and Japan where the nets are installed in erosion-prone land formations to arrest soil runoff as well as promote re-greening efforts.

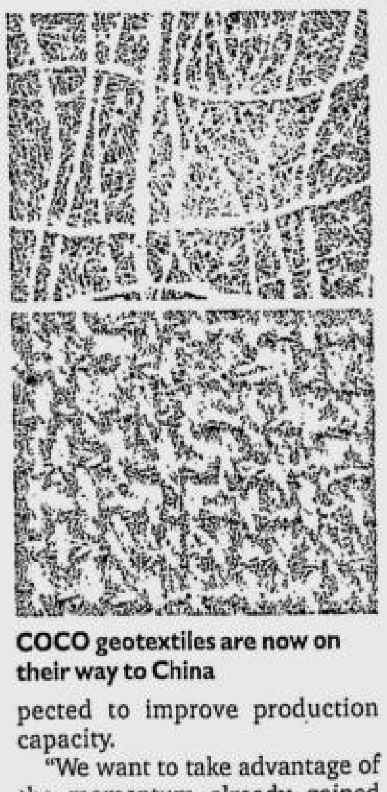
Negotiations are ongoing for supply contracts in Mongolia where the Coconet could be used to prevent the spread of arid areas near the Gobi Desert.

Users prefer geotextile made of coco coir as it degrades naturally at a rate that allows vegetation to settle firmly while other geotextiles degrade too fast for the plants to grow.

Coco coir is preferred over concrete bricks and peat moss because it is cheaper and completely biodegradable. It is also an excellent growing medium for plants and grasses since the fiber has natural rooting hormones and good water-holding capacity.

Aquino says the Department of Trade and Industry was stepping up its efforts to promote the export of coconut products like coco fiber and coco peat—but especially coco geotextile—to China.

Several activities, including a training on weaving and twining, are also lined up this year to further improve the competitiveness of coconut products in the international market. The training, one of the projects to be funded by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas under its P10.5-million grant for export promotion and development, is expected to improve production capacity.



COCO geotextiles are now on their way to China

"We want to take advantage of the momentum already gained from the successful export of coconut products last year," Aquino says. "Our long-term goal is to be able, consistently, to supply the overseas market with more value-added products such as coco geotextiles."

The DTI says about a quarter of the country's cultivated lands is planted with coconut trees and an estimated 30 million people are partly or wholly dependent on the coconut industry as their sources of livelihood.

Historically, the Southern Tagalog, Bicol and Eastern Visayas regions were the centers of coconut production. In the 1980s, Western and Southern Mindanao also became important coconut-growing regions.

The Philippines is the second-largest producer of coconut products, next to Indonesia.

To keep tabs on the World Challenge, check out www.theworldchallenge.co.uk. A profile of the winning project will be shown on BBC World and featured in Newsweek beginning Nov. 28, 2005.

Works create wood venture

By Irma Faith Pal
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—There is something in wood that brings out the creative juices of Generoso "Bong" Callao.

"I have loved working with wood since I was a little boy," says this 48-year-old artist-builder.

Their Mediterranean-inspired home at Limquiaco Subdivision in Barangay Junob in Dumaguete City itself is a showcase of what one could create from a piece of seemingly useless wood.

Every little piece in their four-tone orange home is a work of art, each with a story to tell.

In their 21 years of marriage, from the time they were working in Manila until they moved to Bong's home province of Negros Oriental in 1999, Bong and his wife Fely never bought a single piece of furniture.

Bong would go around neighborhoods—or to as far away as Lucena and La Union—to buy hardwood from old houses, *riles ng tren*, or felled trees.

When he got home, he would work around the design of the wood, and make them into beds, chairs, lamps, tables and sala sets.

But almost every time a friend or relative visited their home, they ended up parting with their "labor of love" or selling them because the guest would insist on buying them.

"We observed that while people in Negros Oriental liked to collect old things and antiques, they also liked to appreciate and experiment on rare designs," Bong notes.

This inspired the couple to maximize their exposure and training in designs and craftsmanship of woodworks, and seriously venture into the manufacture of furniture made from "sinkers" (as opposed to driftwood).

ALEX PAL/PDI VISAYAS BUREAU

BONG and Fely Callao with some of their creations.

Arte de Negros

Whenever they were not busy designing and building houses or doing the interiors as contractors, Bong and Fely would experiment on intertwining wrought iron with woodworks.

In 2002, Bong and Fely opened a woodworking and wrought iron business and called it Arte de Negros. It made its debut during the Buglasan Festival of Festivals in the province.

Their trade name, Bong says, came about because he wanted to tell the world there are creative people and skilled workers in this part of the archipelago.

"We wanted the name to convey (the fact) there exist many creative talents and skills here, and that they are right here in the island of Negros," he says.

The Callaos say that more than the sales they generated during the Buglasan, they were grateful for the provincial government's efforts to give them a high-impact exposure at the Freedom Park at the Capitol area where thousands of locals and tourists have visited.

"After that, we felt that the people just started to appreciate our concept, and trust our taste," Bong recalls.

Signature character

Although the Internet or the glossy pages of the Architectural Digest guide them on global trends in technology and design, Bong and Fely rely on their gut feel as to what would sell.

So far, their inclination for the *kinaraan* (antique-style), native, indigenous, ethnic, with touches of Mediterranean and Mexican colonial influences, has proven marketable.

Traditional architects and interior designers would go by the aphorism "form follows function," asking the purpose of the product before thinking of a shape or a figure that would fit it.

But Bong would work around any form or shape and determine a particular function that the piece of wood could fulfill.

That is why at the Arte de Negros showroom at Km. 5 along Valencia Road, or in their home, one would see a custom-made wide oblong recliner, leaning floor lamps, an asymmetrical garden swing, among other oddly shaped furniture.

"They are decorative, at the same time, functional," Bong assures.

"People tell us they can tell if a certain product is ours because they have observed we use 'seemingly unusable' materials that don't look like they have commercial value," notes Bong.

In addition, compared to mass production commercial woodwork shops, Arte de Negros only uses wooden pegs, not nails.

Growing clientele

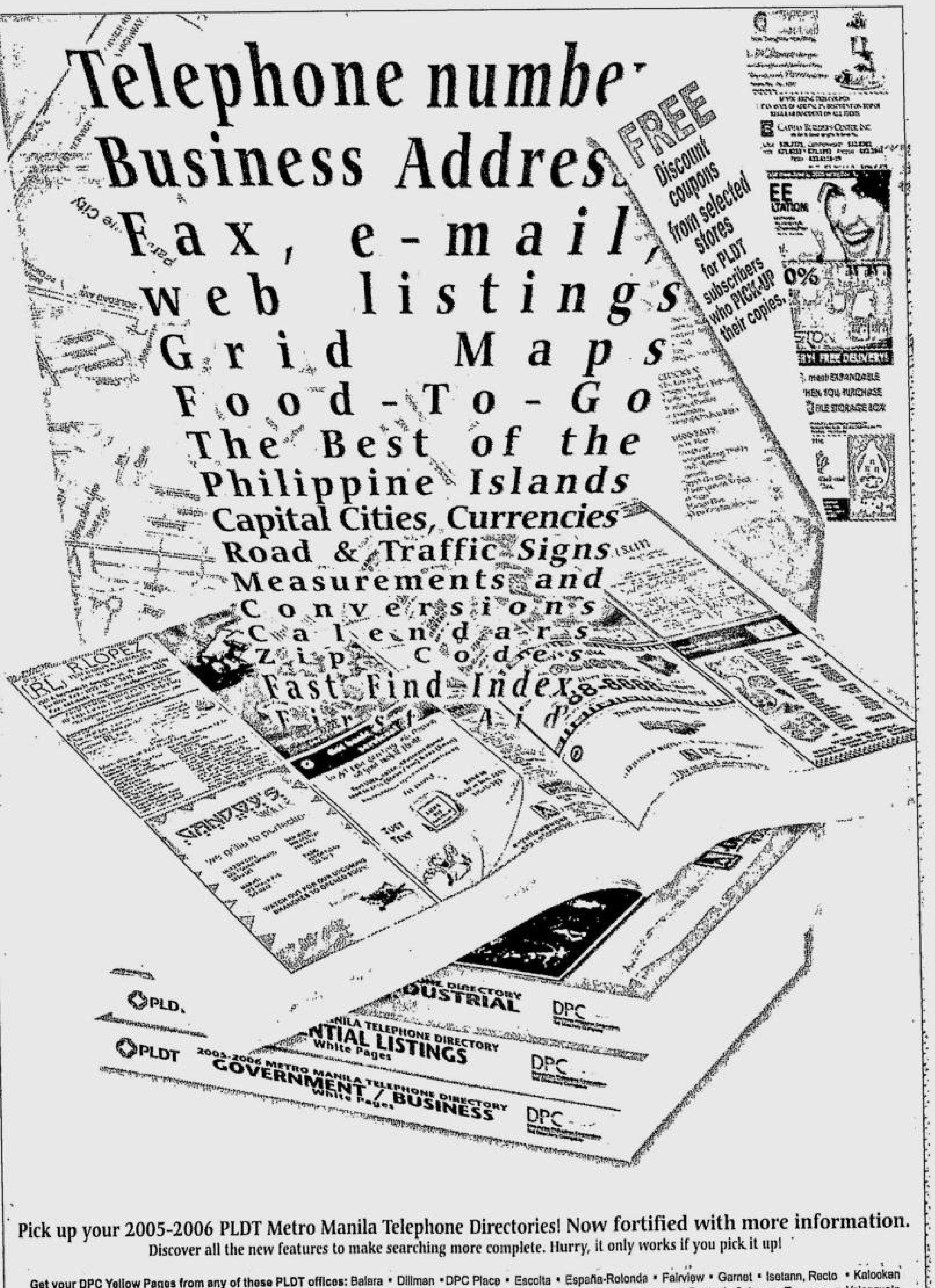
Art connoisseur Dr. Rico Absin has commissioned the Callaos to design and build for him the narra doors that now adorn his El Pueblo Genovivo mansion in Barangay Candau-ay.

The heavy doors are intricately embedded with green and gold smoked textured glass, and ornate wrought iron bars.

In this house evoking memories of the family Von Trapp is a three-meter-wide chandelier with huge capiz lanterns—bigger than most ornate fixtures in cathedrals—that Arte de Negros designed and fabricated.

Bong and Fely are now eyeing possible markets, homes, hotels, resorts, and restaurants in the neighboring cities of Bacolod and Cebu.

With the growing clientele of Arte de Negros, one wouldn't just think of *budbud kabog* or *chicharon* when talking about Dumaguete attractions and souvenirs.



Pick up your 2005-2006 PLDT Metro Manila Telephone Directories! Now fortified with more information.

Discover all the new features to make searching more complete. Hurry, it only works if you pick it up!

Get your DPC Yellow Pages from any of these PLDT offices: Balara • Diliman • DPC Place • Escolta • España-Rotonda • Fairview • Garnet • Isetann, Recto • Kalookan Las Piñas, Talon V. • Makati • Malabon/Navotas • Mandaluyong • Muñoz • Novaliches • Onyx Paco • Parañaque • Pasay • Rustan's Cubao • Tayuman • Valenzuela

PLDT

DPC YELLOW PAGES
The original search engine.

Coconet venture vies for world attention

By Ronnel W. Domingo

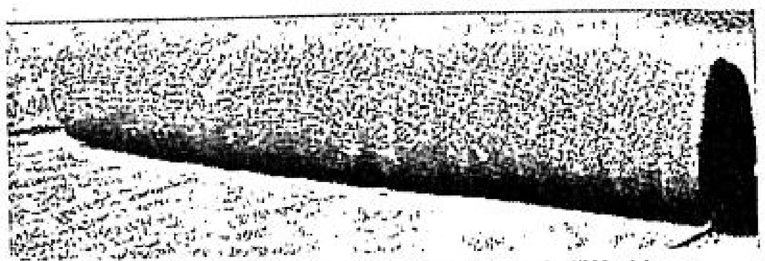
BUSINESS is getting very good because it is a very good business.

This is the case for coconut-based anti-erosion nets as its Filipino developer joins 11 other finalists in Newsweek's and BBC World's competition for entrepreneurs whose projects are environment friendly and helpful to communities.

Dubbed "World Challenge," the competition includes finalists involved in promoting elephant conservation in Zambia; organic farming in Spain where farmland is crucial for the conservation of endangered wildlife species; and a rechargeable battery project in Vanuatu.

Other finalists are from the United Kingdom, India, South Africa, Ukraine, Malta, Kenya, and the United States.

According to the Department of Trade and Industry, a BBC team would be visiting the country on July 9 to film and document the production of "coco geotextile," including the sourcing of coconut husks as the main raw material and its impact on the community.



ANTI-EROSION nets from coconut will compete in "World Challenge" promoting environmental protection.

Geotextiles, a family of fiber and synthetic materials used to hold soil in place and aid in water drainage, have been in use since the '50s but Filipino scientist Justino Arboleda pioneered the use of geotextile nets made of coconut coir.

The World Challenge website describes the Philippine initiative as Coconet—coconut husk converted into cost effective and efficient soil erosion and control products to prevent landslides.

"At least 1,650 families now benefit from the coconut husk business around provincial Philippines," the website says.

Each of the finalist gets $20,000 from co-sponsor Royal Dutch Shell and will be shown in six World Challenge episodes on BBC World; and will be featured in a special advertising series in Newsweek.

The competition aims at finding individuals or groups from around the world who have shown enterprise and innovation at a grass roots level.

Trade Undersecretary Thomas Aquino says being among the World Challenge finalists was not the first time the Philippine coco geotextile caught global attention.

Aquino says the versatile export product last month won the gold prize for the Nature's Wis-

COCONET/ B3-3

Prudentialife: An Established Icon of Service

For Prudentialife, its ***Madonna and Child*** logo has become an icon of service nationwide. One solid proof was when Prudentialife bagged the ***"Best Established Service Brand Campaign"*** Silver Award in the 1st Marketing Communications Effectiveness Awards (MCEA) held on July 1, 2005.

Sponsored by the Institute of Communications of the University of Asia and the Pacific (UA & P), Marketing and Opinion Research Society of the Philippines and BusinessWorld, MCEA is the first and only Award that recognizes the marketing communications campaigns that have achieved business objectives while promoting a culture of excellence, nobility and social responsibility.

The Board of Judges composed of well-respected and experienced marketing practitioners and advertising executives cited the Prudentialife ***Kapamilya*** Campaign during its 25th Anniversary for the year 2003-2004:

"For the Best Established Service Brand Campaign, the Silver Award goes to the brand that has remarkably outpaced its industry's growth rate while espousing the importance of the warmth and care that the family spirit gives."

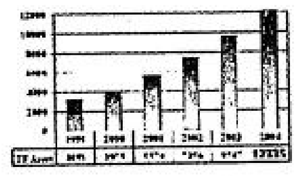
This year's awards covered marketing communications campaigns for the past two years (2003-2004). Prudentialife's ***Kapamilya*** campaign was also recognized due to its effectiveness in addressing major challenges in 2003 during one of the most trying times in pre-need history.

The desired marketing results were achieved through a highly effective corporate strategy and marketing thrusts; with a well-planned and integrated marketing communications program by the Prudentialife Corporate Communications Department and its agencies - DYR-Alcantara (now Y&R Philippines) and Mediaedge:cia.

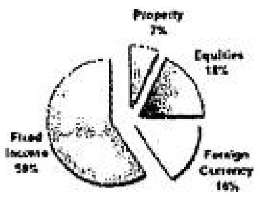
Strength and Stability

Prudentialife's trust fund has been growing at an average of 49% per annum over the past five years. Prudentialife contributed over P4 Billion to the trust fund over the past two years. The total trust fund for 2004 reached P12.5 Billion (as of March 2004). Prudentialife has no trust fund deficiency per latest acturial valuation by a SEC-certified actuary.

The trust fund of the company is in compliance with the SEC requirements on trust fund portfolio mix. The maximum investment in real estate is 25% while Prudentialife has only 7%. The maximum investment in equities is 25% while Prudentialife has invested only 18% of the total fund. More than 60% of total investment is in safe government securities.



Trust Fund Build-up



Trust Fund Portfolio Mix

The balanced trust fund investment portfolio mix of the company assures the public that Prudentialife will honor all its current and future commitments.

CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE. Nurturing family culture is deeply rooted in the guiding principle of work and prayer espoused by Prudentialife Founder and Chairman Amb. Francisco A. Alba. Prudentialife has kept alive a culture of kinship among all members of the organization much like the logo of the Madonna and Child that the company carries. It owes its strength to the ***Kapamilya* Spirit** as exemplified by every member of the Prudentialife family.

NOBILITY. Prudentialife is one big happy family which genuinely cares for the welfare of others. Prudentialife's professional, values-driven and God-fearing management team, employees and sales force are committed to secure the good life for the Filipino family.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY. Prudentialife's sincere commitment to enrich the lives of the Filipino family emanates from a caring corporate culture that puts a premium in sharing its blessings with the less privileged sectors of society. It does its share through programs on education, livelihood, health, values-enhancement and contribution to charitable institutions and religious communities every year during its anniversary. In 2004, Prudentialife became the first and only pre-need company to work hand in hand with Gawad Kalinga as partners in building the ***Prudentialife-Gawad Kalinga Village*** project at Baseco, Tondo which now uplifts the lives of 48 poor families.

Today, the Prudentialife ***Kapamilya*** moves on with the same dedicated will and humble heart to serve others; so that more families and communities may enjoy a better quality of life.

Prudentialife
Best Established Service Brand Campaign
1st Marketing Communications Effectiveness Awards
Silver Award
Prudentialife
Mo Sa Prudentialife

"For the Best Established Service Brand Campaign, the Silver Award goes to the brand that has remarkably outpaced its industry's growth rate while espousing the importance of the warmth and care that the family spirit gives."

Kapamilya **Campaign (2003-2004)**

In 1978, Prudentialife had a clear vision: To serve the Filipino family by helping them prepare for a better future. Through its pre-need plans, Prudentialife shaped a strong resilient community of families. Today, Prudentialife's "Madonna and Child" has become an icon of service nationwide that reflects its commitment to secure the good life for the Filipino family.

The ***1st Marketing Communications Effectiveness Awards*** (MCEA) is organized by:
Institute of Communications of the University of Asia and the Pacific,
Marketing and Opinion Research Society of the Philippines and BusinessWorld.

sms feedback: inquirer life name/age/city/message
to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart)
or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**
Subsection Editor **Lito B. Zulueta**

CINEMALAYA REELS OFF

The shape of things to come

Philippine cinema dying? No, it's just gone indie

By Gibbs Cadiz

EPI Quizon and Dwight Gaston in Sigfreid Barros Sanchez's "Lasponggols"

CINEMALAYA film [illegible]akers: (seated) Michael [illegible] Dagnalan, Jun Aves, Alfred Aloysius Adlawan, Sigfreid Barros Sanchez, Emmanuel de la Cruz; Clodualdo del Mundo Jr., Coreen Jimenez, Rica Arevalo

IF young writer-director Mario Cornejo wants to be the Philippines' answer to Quentin Tarantino, he is off to a good start with "Big Time," his entry to the first Cinemalaya Independent Film Festival that opens July 13 at the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

"Big Time" and eight other feature-length digital films by first-time directors are the centerpiece of the five-day festival, which also showcases digital shorts, non-competition entries and a film congress on the burgeoning indie movement in Philippine cinema *(see sidebar)*.

Of the nine films in competition, we've seen four so far, and "Big Time" is easily the best of these. A hip, whip-smart crime caper about two small-time buddies whose big-ticket dreams go awry with a botched kidnapping, it has all of Tarantino's trademark flourishes: swirling camerawork, loquacious lowlifes, winking pop-culture allusions, jagged narrative, crackling dialogue, a sardonic, offhand way with violence. A sensibility, in short, truly independent from the stodgy action-comedy vehicles we've come to expect from local film studios.

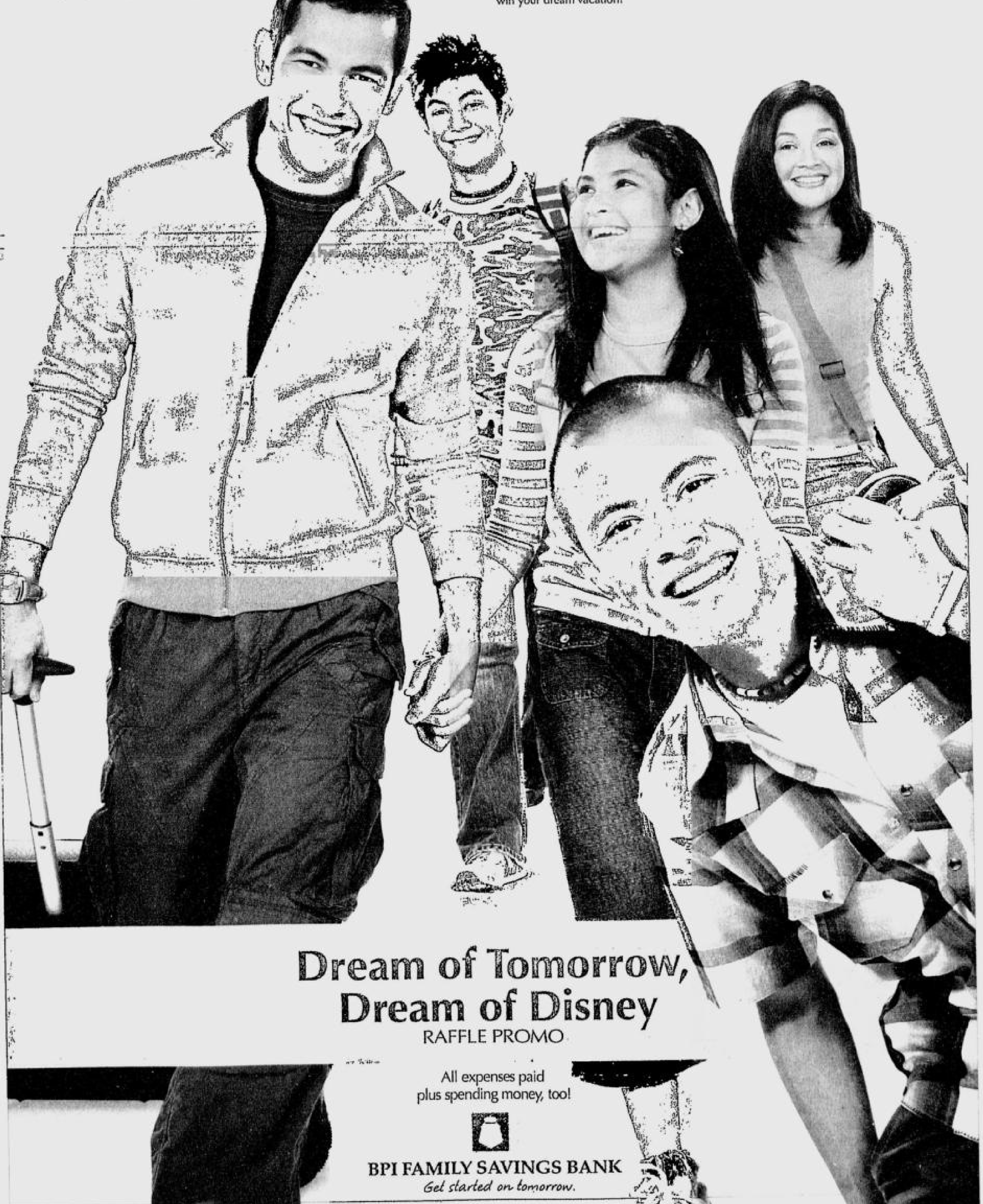
If it isn't so derivative of "Pulp Fiction," in fact, "Big Time" would qualify as an impressively precocious work by a debuting director. But this is not to dismiss it as a sorry copycat. The movie attains a level of cool rare for a local film in its refusal to take itself seriously, in its giddy, unapologetic acknowledgment of its roots in the zeitgeist. Mark Meilly ("La Visa Loca") exhibits the same light, throwaway hand, but Cornejo's sense of the absurd is darker, more outrageous, and therefore funnier.

The movie's pinnacle moment is an hommage to the director's thorough marination in pop culture. A moody crime lord (Michael de Mesa) instructs his wayward son (Jamie Wilson) by alluding to Don Vito Corleone in "The Godfather." "'The Godfather,' yeah, that's a movie with Andy Garcia, right?" says the son. The father takes a deep breath and hisses, "*Hindi* counted '*yun*!"

The script, co-written by Cornejo with Monster Jimenez, is droll yet substantial enough for the actors to find their comic paces. So the leads, Winston Elizalde and Nor Domingo, make for a combustible pair of wisecracking cons, never breaking their deadpan manner. Joanne Miller, De Mesa and Wil-

THE SHAPE/ C2

JACLYN Jose and Angelo Ilagan in Emmanuel Dela Cruz's "Sarong Banggi"



BPI Family Savings Bank gets you started on your dream vacation.

Nine families will be flying to Hong Kong Disneyland!

Drive your Dream AUTO LOAN
Easy to apply, easy to own, easy to pay.
Apply for an auto loan and you just might fly to Hong Kong Disneyland!

Build your Dream HOUSING LOAN
Easy to apply, easy to own, easy to pay.
Get a housing loan now, build your dream house and get a chance to win your dream vacation!

Plan Ahead TIME DEPOSIT
High earning five year time deposit.
Plan ahead now and find your way to the newest Disneyland on the planet!

Dream of Tomorrow, Dream of Disney
RAFFLE PROMO

All expenses paid plus spending money, too!

BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK
Get started on tomorrow.

PROMO MECHANICS:
- The promo period is from June 1-November 30, 2005
- Participating products are those availed of in all BPI Family Savings Bank or BPI branches, Express Banking Centers or Provincial Business Centers nationwide or through www.bpidirect.com
- Raffle draw dates: August 5, 2005 • October 7, 2005 • December 9, 2005
- Total number of winners: 9 winners (3 winners per product category per draw)
- Prize inclusions:
  a. Roundtrip airfare tickets for 2 adults and 2 kids (11 years old and below) to Hong Kong
  b. Roundtrip land transfers
  c. 2 nights hotel accommodation at a Disneyland Hotel and 1 night accommodation at a partner hotel in Hong Kong
  d. Park Tickets to Hong Kong Disneyland
  e. US$500 spending money

Apply now and make your dreams a reality!
For more information, log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com, call [illegible] or visit any BPI Family Savings Bank or BPI Branch, Express Banking Center or Provincial Business Center
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum deposit insurance for each depositor P250,000.

See flyers for details

ANGEL Aquino, Eddie Garcia and Irma Adlawan in Rica Arevalo's "ICU Bed #7"

NOR Domingo in Mario Cornejo's terrific "Big Time"

The shape of things to come

FROM THE SHORT film "Mansyon," by Joel Ruiz. Six shorts will debut at the Cinemalaya festival opening tomorrow, 7 pm, at the CCP.

"ANG PAGDADALAGA ni Maximo Oliveros" by Michiko Yamamoto

From page C1

son also turn in forceful performances.

If "Big Time"—close on the heels of "Bridal Shower," "Ebolusyon" and "La Visa Loca," and made for a measly P500,000—is the shape of things to come, then perhaps we can mothball for now the tiresome wailing over the death of Philippine cinema. Going indie is clearly a way out.

Easy sell

Still, while the crowd-pleasing "Big Time" can be an easy sell to mainstream audiences, the three other digital entries we've seen—"Baryoke" by Ron Bryant, "Isnats" by Michael Angelo Dagñalan and "Room Boy" by Alfred Aloysius Adlawan—may prove the opposite: that indie also means slow, impenetrable and gloomy.

At the outset, let it be said that these four writer-directors already merit credit for coming up with stories that are fresh, brave and unconventional, and hence deserving of an audience. Bryant's tale of how a videoke machine changes the lives of barrio folk in "Baryoke" has an almost epic feel to the way it minutely maps changes in the emotional terrain of its characters. Dagñalan's "Isnats," in many ways a buddy picture like "Big Time," goes down and dirty with its story of a cell-phone snatcher who strikes up an unlikely friendship with his victim. "Room Boy" is about a, well, hotel roomboy who falls in love with a hooker.

The last storyline may sound hoary, but "Room Boy" is anything but a cliche. Starring Polo Ravales and Meryll Soriano in what may be their breakthrough roles as young dramatic performers, the movie's patient, meticulous exploration of their awakening to each other achieves the marvelous dimensions of a thoughtful character study. What comes to mind is a Joey Reyes movie, specifically the similarly themed "Paraisong Parisukat."

"Room Boy" is hobbled by a haphazard beginning and a weak ending. But the rest of the movie, if you stay with it long enough, has its rewards. Not least of these is seeing its two leads essay their roles with moving conviction, and breathe life to a quiet story drowning in loss and heartbreak. Chanda Romero, great as usual, also co-stars.

ANGIE Ferro and Pen Medina in Ron Bryant's "Baryoke"

Common syndrome

What "Room Boy" shares with "Baryoke" and "Isnats," unfortunately, is unseemly length. All these movies suffer from the common syndrome of first-time writer-directors who think every scene in their screenplay deserves to be dramatized onscreen.

Judicious cutting will be good for "Isnats," for instance, whose crisp story alone already bears watching. Dagñalan's use of ordinary-looking actors adds dramatic authenticity to his furtive peek into the lives of petty crooks living in Manila's underbelly. His screenplay, too—a Palanca first prize awardee in 2002—sounds tangy, plucked right off the streets. But the story's endless meandering can be tedious. By the end of "Isnats" you've counted two-and-a-half movies jostling for space in one package.

The same cover-all-bases approach afflicts "Baryoke," but on a more ambitious scale. In this movie, interlocking groups of characters push, shove and transform as a lowly videoke machine changes the social landscape of a rustic barrio. A promising premise, except that Bryant's strong suit is not narrative cohesion, but cinematography. "Baryoke" is skillfully photographed, and the lucid images vivify the minute undercurrents of everyday hamlet existence.

"Baryoke" occasionally approaches the surreal punch of black comedy. In one scene, Ronnie Lazaro and Pen Medina use the videoke machine as a sound system to rally their barriomates before the gates of a mining company. The camera cuts away, to reveal the two by their lonesome flailing away in the wind. A sense of puny grandeur suffuses that absurd image of alienation.

Elsewhere, the movie loses its bearings with sketchy characterization and loose, unfocused plotting. Good thing Bryant has first-rate actors who fiercely bring his characters to twitchy life, or "Baryoke" would crumple into pretentious claptrap. Elizabeth Oropesa, Medina and Lazaro are outstanding in the lead roles, with good support from Roeder Camanag, Paolo O'Hara and especially Angie Ferro as a salty politician trawling the backwoods for votes.

Watch them

Will Cornejo, Adlawan, Dagñalan, Bryant and the other indie practitioners change the face of Philippine cinema, the way the likes of Tarantino, David O. Russell ("Three Kings"), Paul Thomas Anderson ("Boogie Nights"), Spike Jonze ("Being John Malkovich") and Steven Soderbergh ("sex, lies and videotape") did for Hollywood?

If we let them, they can do it. So don't just take our word for their entries. Go to the CCP beginning this Wednesday and judge for yourself whether these movies, along with five other digital features that will make their debut in the Cinemalaya festival—"Sarong Banggi" by Emmanuel Dela Cruz, "Ang Pagdadalaga ni Maximo Oliveros" by Michiko Yamamoto, "ICU Bed #7" by Rica Arevalo, Lasponggols" by Sigfreid Barros-Sanchez, and "Pepot Artista" by award-winning screenwriter Clodualdo del Mundo Jr.—earn for themselves the right to present entertaining, important alternatives to mainstream Pinoy cinema. Wondrous new stories are always welcome, but audience support is even more so. So give digital films a try.

The Cinemalaya Independent Film Festival will be held in five CCP venues. For tickets and inquiries, call 8321125 locals 1704/1705/1801/1808.

E-mail the author at gcadiz@inquirer.com.ph

Congress focuses on indie filmmaking

THE CINEMALAYA Film Congress on July 15-16 at CCP Tanghalang Aurelio Tolentino will present lectures and discussions on topics ranging from an overview of Philippine independent filmmaking, to language and aesthetics in indie films, digital vs. celluloid, and indie film production, promotion, marketing and distribution.

Panelists will include Lav Diaz, Eric Matti, Kidlat Tahimik, Nick Deocampo, Jeffrey Jeturian, Mark Meilly, Quark Henares, Raymond Red, Gil Portes, Carlitos Siguion-Reyna, Cesar Montano, Robbie Tan, Nicanor Tiongson and other industry heavyweights. Unitel's Tony Gloria will be the keynote speaker. Call 8321125 locals 1704/1705/1801/1808 for tickets.

Music-making in uncertain times

International Filipino tenor Otoniel Gonzaga in homecoming concert

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor

OTONIEL Gonzaga in action in a European opera production

WHAT usually takes place in the cultural scene when the country is preoccupied with political scandals?

Last June 12 while I was mounting Best of the Philippines Concert 6 Series at the Philamlife Theater, the entire country was also watching the "Philippine Scandal Series," which started with the jueteng expose and the grand finale—the "Gloriagate" Tin Pan Alley bestseller of a tape.

On that day the country's brightest talents were getting prolonged ovations at Philamlife Theater. I survived June 12 after worrying people wouldn't come to the concert because of the political tension. Now what do you think will concert organizers and potential sponsors feel with the presidency threatened by another political upheaval?

Somehow, it felt like deja vu. In the late 2000, my concerts in Isabela took place in the middle of the impeachment trial and audiences would take advantage of the intermission to watch TV and see if the controversial envelope had been opened.

In November of 2000, I invaded an anti-Erap rally led by Isabela Bishop Sergio Utleg in Ilagan, Isabela, not so much to cover the rally but to distribute tickets to the opening of the 2000 First Cagayan Valley International Music Festival with American cellist Angela Lee as opening act and Russian violinist Anastacia Chebotareva as closing performance.

Again during the intermission after the Russian violinist was done with a Mozart sonata, audiences trooped to the lobby of Isabela's Hotel Roma to find out if "the envelope" had been opened.

BARITONE Noel Azcona

Now with another impeachment trial and another sign of People Power looming in the horizon, we are again wondering how we'd fare in the coming major event at the Philamlife Theater on July 26 featuring tenor Otoniel Gonzaga with baritone Noel Azcona, soprano Joan Cano and pianist Mary Anne Espina.

On the one hand, I hope the concert would feel like a respite from all the negative news plaguing this country no end. This is the Best of the Philippines Concert Tour 8, celebrating the best of what this country can offer, and my survival instinct is that we have to move on. We cannot wait for better times and more sympathetic sponsors to save the cultural scene.

We hope that people would come and take a respite from political and power struggles. After watching the concert, they would realize, "This country is still worth dying for."

The most uplifting comment I got from a concertgoer after the June 12 MPO concert of pianist Oliver Salonga and cellist Victor Michael Coo was from former Tourism Secretary Gemma Cruz Araneta, who said after hearing the young talents: "This country still has hope."

Here and there

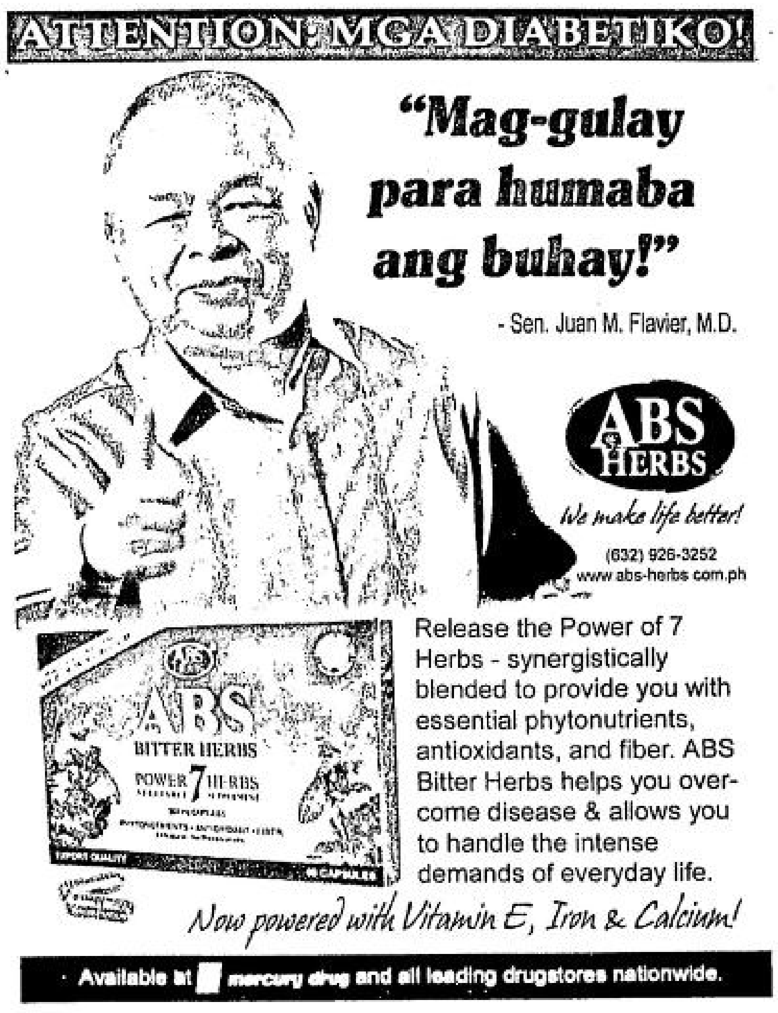
Another good news from the arts scene is Filipina ballerina Christine Joy Rocas winning the silver medal at the 8th New York International Ballet Competition.

That front page photo of hers in another paper above the grinning President Macapagal-Arroyo spoke a lot. Ballerina Lisa Macuja Elizalde is one of the few fighting for the survival of classical ballet in this country. Too bad, this country is seeing a lot of scheming Black Swans than honest pure White Swans.

Tenor Otoniel Gonzaga will share the stage with two exciting young talents from the opera scene on July 26—baritone Noel Azcona and soprano Joan Cano with pianist Mary Anne Espina. Apart from the arias from Fedora, Vespri Siciliani and Turandot, Gonzaga will do a duet from Pearl Fisher and Forza del Destino with Azcona and "The Prayer" with Cano.

For the first time in Manila, Gonzaga will sing selections from "Carousel" and "Sound of Music"—in higher keys, of course. Call 9017156 or 0910-8851136 for tickets.

THE CAST of Floy Quintos' "St. Louis Loves Dem Filipinos... The Musical," opening this Wednesday at the Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero Theater, UP Diliman



Release the Power of 7 Herbs - synergistically blended to provide you with essential phytonutrients, antioxidants, and fiber. ABS Bitter Herbs helps you overcome disease & allows you to handle the intense demands of everyday life.

Now powered with Vitamin E, Iron & Calcium!

Available at mercury drug and all leading drugstores nationwide.

'St. Louis Loves Dem Filipinos . . . The Musical' opens July 13

FLOY Quintos' "St. Louis Loves dem Filipinos... The Musical" will have Miguel Castro and Arnold Reyes alternating for the protagonist's role of Bulan. The musical, an account of the infamous 1904 St. Louis World Fair exposition, will open on July 13 at the Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero Theater, UP Diliman, Quezon City.

Bulan is a Bagobo chieftain, proud and firm. But the life he lives in St. Louis, Missouri as a mere "display" and sample of a "primitive" changes him drastically. Bulan, together with the other members of Filipino ethnic tribes, have been sent to the 1904 World Fair as objects of curiosity and alleged proofs of Caucasian superiority and Asian inferiority.

Miguel Castro has done plays for Gantimpala Theater Foundation. He directed the Filipino adaptation of "Casa de Bernarda Alba," and co-wrote "Laro," the gay version of "La Ronde."

Arnold Reyes has done numerous productions for Atlantis Productions, Actor's Repertory, Gantimpala Theater Foundation, and Dulaang UP. He is also a songwriter and a commercial model. Bituin Escalante's "Paano Na?" and Piolo Pascual's "Kung Ako Ba Siya?" are his compositions.

"St Louis Loves Dem Filipinos... The Musical" is directed by Alexander Cortez.

Among the artistic staff are Tuxqs Rutaquio (production designer), Dexter Santos (choreographer), Voltaire de Jesus (lights designer) and Anril Tiatco (dramaturg).

The cast includes Bon Vibar, Leo Rialp, Richard Cunanan, Ronan Capinding, Rina Saporsantos, Mae Ann Valentin, Jake Macapagal, Jum Paolleli and the Dulaang UP Ensemble.

Call 9261349 or 9205301 loc. 6441.

2 for the price of 1
ON ALL COMBINATION MASSAGE.
PAMPER THYSELF
(Promo Period: July 1-31, 2005 from 11am to 5 pm Weekdays only)

Young cast for 'Footloose,' the musical

STAGES, sister company of Trumpets, assembles an exciting young cast for its production of the Broadway-hit musical Footloose. Leading the talented ensemble are two of the fastest-rising stars in mainstream entertainment, "Prince of RnB" Jay-R and Myx VJ Iya Villania.

Footloose, a classic tale of teen rebellion, repression and enlightenment, features a delightful combination of energy-filled dance choreography and lively performances, a formula that made the 1983 film one of Hollywood's most unforgettable movies.

Known for topping the music charts with a number of hit songs and for his savvy dance moves on television shows and commercials, Jay-R makes his theatrical debut in the lead role of Ren, the same role that made Kevin Bacon an icon of his generation.

Also her first time on the stage, TV personality Iya Villania plays the role of the beautiful and strong-willed town girl Ariel. A familiar face in the entertainment scene with her commercials and television shows, Iya finds a perfect opportunity to showcase her flair for singing and dancing in "Footloose."

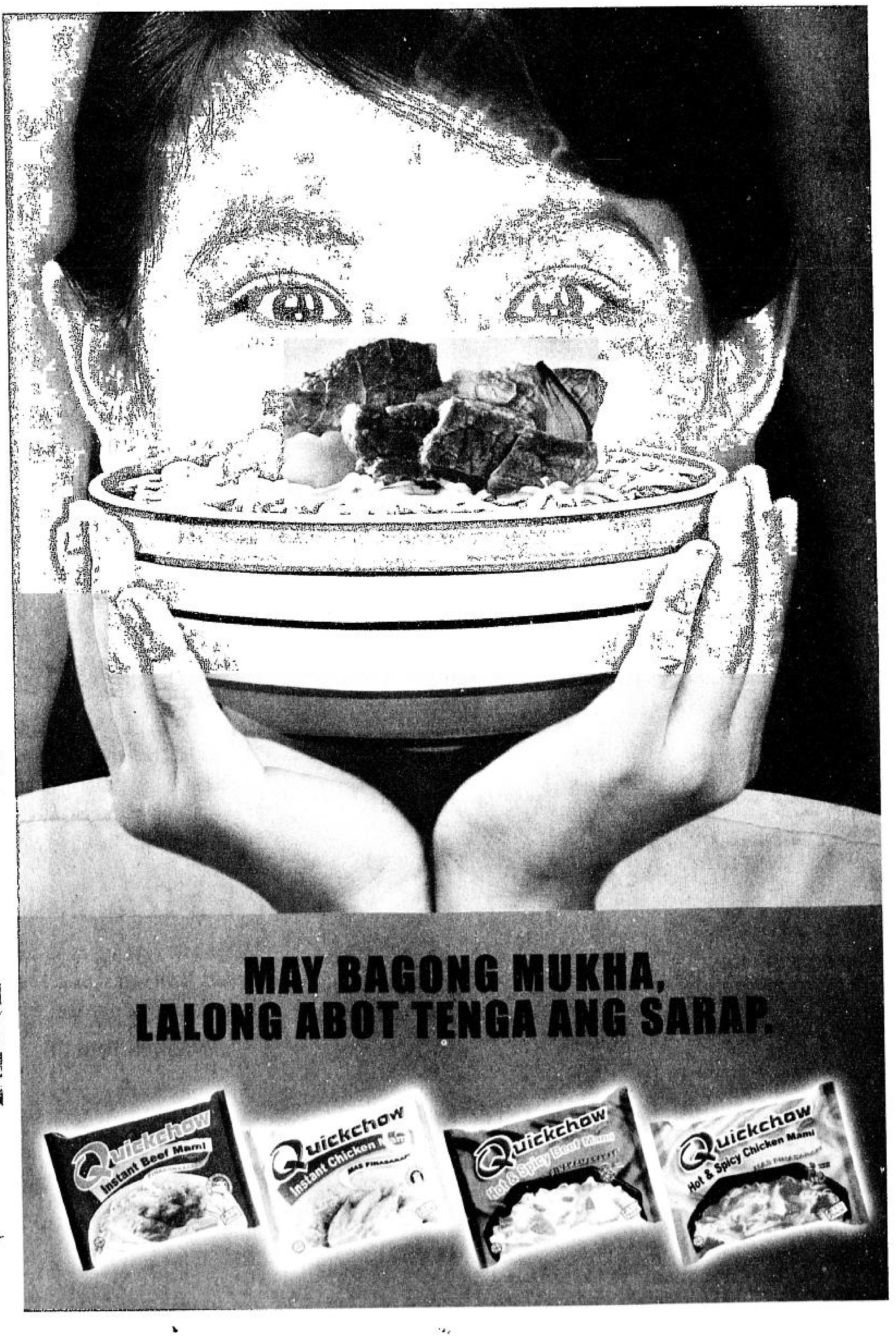
Making up the rest of the teen roles is an interesting mix of fresh talents and individuals who come from different backgrounds such as television, music recording and theatre: TV stars Nikki Valdez and Maoui, Gian Magdangal and Jonard Yanzon of the male vocal group 17:28 and Reuben Uy of Akafellas, the Akafellas' road manager Kyla Rivera, "Star in a Million" contestant Veejay Aragon, MTV VJ Hunt finalist Marvin Luna, Ateneo Blue Repertory regular Caissa Borromeo, and Trumpets Playshoppers Pom Docena, JC Gotinga, Johann dela Fuente and Kenjie Villacorte.

Lending support to the predominantly young cast of "Footloose" are theater stalwarts Audie Gemora, Agot Isidro and Pinky Marquez.

The show highlights the '80s most popular songs "Almost Paradise," "Holding Out for a Hero", "Let's Hear It for the Boy" and the theme "Footloose."

"Footloose" will run at the Meralco Theater on September 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25. Last few shows are available for show-buying. Call 6317252, 6354478 or 8919999. Visit www.ticketworld.com.ph or email stages_pr@i-manila.com.ph.

JAY-R and Iya Villania headline Stages' presentation of "Footloose."



MAY BAGONG MUKHA,
LALONG ABOT TENGA ANG SARAP.
Quickchow Instant Beef Mami
Quickchow Instant Chicken Mami
Quickchow Hot & Spicy Beef Mami
Quickchow Hot & Spicy Chicken Mami

Join the country's longest running art contest.

SHELL NATIONAL STUDENTS ART COMPETITION 2005

Call for Entries

Submission of Entries

For Metro Manila

September 1, 2 & 3, 2005 at Shell Art House, 698 Aurora Blvd.,
New Manila, Quezon City (in front of St. Pauls College)

For Provincial Entries

August 17, 18 & 19, 2005 at the nearest Shell office, installation or depot.
Bacolod: Gallery Orange, Lopue's Annex, Mandalagan, Bacolod City
Iloilo: Museo Iloilo, Bonifacio Drive, Iloilo City
Cebu: CAP Art Center, 60 Osmeña Boulevard, Cebu City
Davao: GENLUNA Gallery, 12 Genluna Street, Davao City

For Competition Rules and Entry Forms

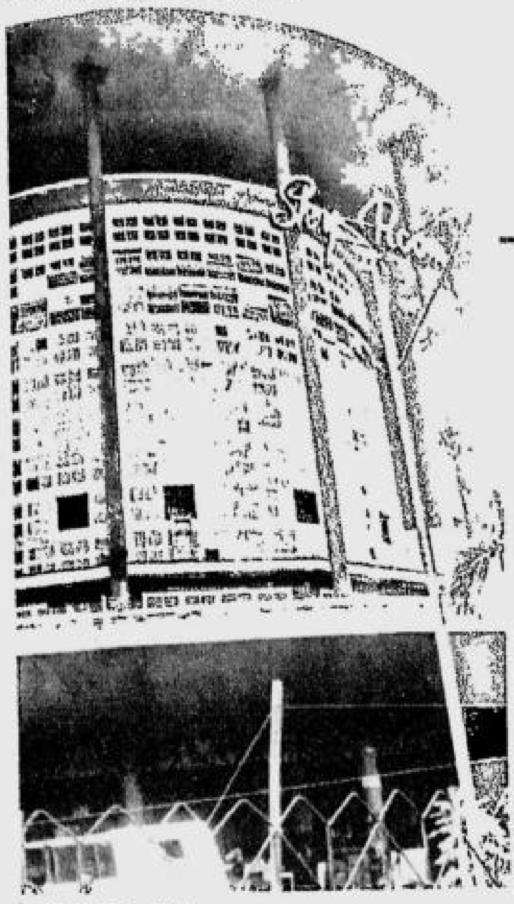
See your Fine Arts or Student Affairs Dean or visit Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation, Shell House, 156 Valero Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City or any Shell office, depot or installation or log on to

www.shell.com.ph

EPSON
EXCEED YOUR VISION
AIR21
CANSON
Most Preferred Acid-free Artist Papers
Exclusively distributed by Star Paper Corporation
SM MEGAMALL
Gallery Orange
MUSEO ILOILO PILIPINAS
CAP
FIRST · LARGEST
GENLUNA GALLERY
Shell HELIX
Shell Card FLEET PLUS
Shellane
Shell-Citibank MasterCard

Malayo ang mararating sa Shell Better Mileage Gasolines

Shell SUPER Premium
Shell SUPER Unleaded
Shell Velocity



JAI ALAI Building

LifeStyle

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: Inquirer life name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Remember the Jai Alai?

PRIDE OF PLACE

Augusto F. Villalon

MARK the 15th of July on your calendars.

On that date in 2000 began the demolition of the Jai Alai, one of Asia's finest Art Deco buildings, a structure that was to have given way to a new Hall of Justice for the City of Manila.

Its demolition was one of the "defining moments," as INQUIRER columnist Bambi Harper called it, in the uphill battle to preserve Philippine architectural heritage.

Public protest was loud. Conservationists negotiated with city officials to save the building. But the Jai Alai building went down anyway.

The Hall of Justice was never built.

How far has heritage preservation gone since then?

Today, five years later, construction looms in both Mehan Garden and the Arroceros Forest Park located in central Manila close to the site of the former Jai Alai.

Both sites are designated as nationally significant archeological sites by the National Museum. Furthermore, Arroceros has the added value of being the only full-grown inner city forest in Manila. Just think of its con-

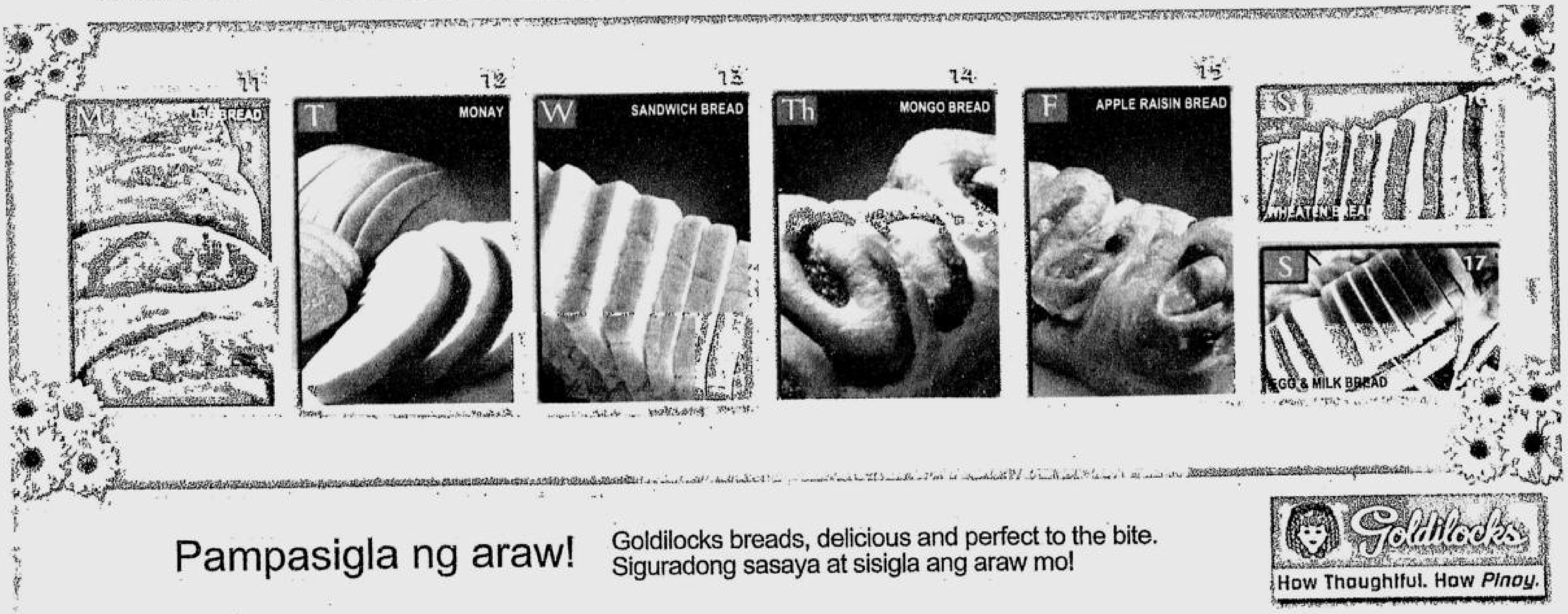
REMEMBER/ D2

WHAT'S ON ROBINSONS
MOJOFLY
NOW
a world to discover
Move to their beat and let your spirit fly as they promote their latest album from EMI Records.

Mojofly

ROBINSONS Malls
www.robinsonsmalls.com

Jergens
Wear Your Skin Proud
Jergens
Original Scent
CHERRY-ALMOND MOISTURIZER
SKIN IS IN

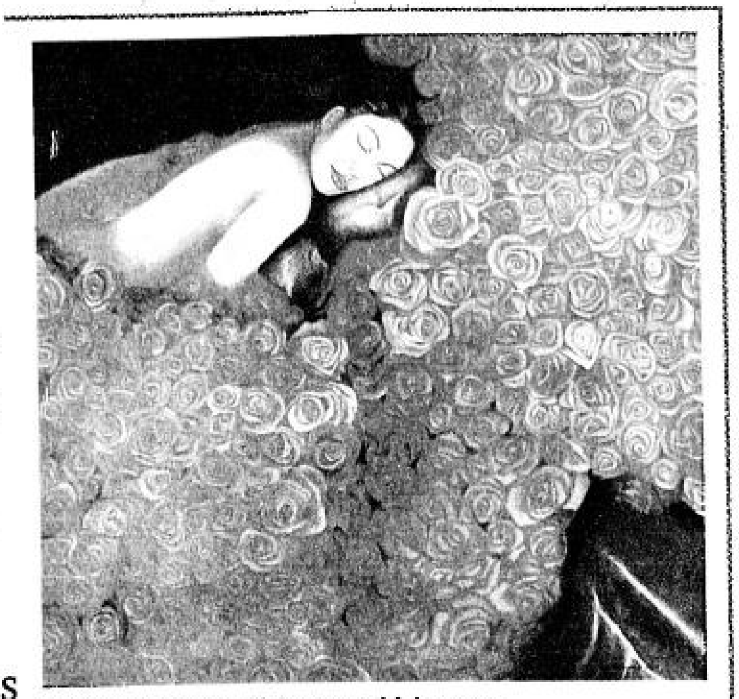


11
M
BREAD
12
T
MONAY
13
W
SANDWICH BREAD
14
Th
MONGO BREAD
15
F
APPLE RAISIN BREAD
S
16
WHEATEN BREAD
S
17
EGG & MILK BREAD
Pampasigla ng araw!

Goldilocks breads, delicious and perfect to the bite.
Siguradong sasaya at sisigla ang araw mo!

Goldilocks
How Thoughtful. How Pinoy.

Baluyut seduces through the richness of her art while Yen explores a wide spectrum of romantic engagements


"DREAMERS," by Claireyenne Malanyaon

Passion and romance from two women

By Gino Dormiendo
Contributor

THE INFINITE riches of abstract art—visual, cerebral, spiritual—immediately seduce the viewer in Karina Baluyut's first solo exhibition. The artworks in various media, in equally varied shapes, colors and textures, reveal the artist's great passions, overpowering sense of wanderlust, and remarkable dexterity with the materials of art-making.

A licensed architect and a topnotcher in the 2004 board examinations, Baluyut was set designer in many theatrical productions. She later took art lessons and participated in sketching sessions with the Guevarra Group.

Finally shifting to art last year, she worked without let-up for this show, producing more than 70 pieces.

As the title, "Fields of Gold," signifies, the show celebrates the allied themes of abundance and prosperity. She aptly chose the image of wheat, glowing like gold in its fullness when about ready for harvest, dancing in the wind.

The pieces give a hint of her architectural affinity and the influence of leading disciples of the Color Field painting such as Paul Klee and Mark Rothko. Baluyut pays homage to her revered mentors in the "Urban" and "Cambodian" series.

In "Cambodian Temples," a set of seven horizontally oriented works, she captures both the architectural grandeur and enigmatic piety of the famed Angkor Wat.

The "Urban" series, on the other hand, shows what her architectural eye can create simply by combining patterns, layering textures, mixing and matching odds and ends of available materials, many coming from her kitchen and gardening tools. What makes the images visually mesmerizing is the inherent versatility of black and white, indicating Baluyut's rare ability to have colors at her beck and call.

The "Post and Lintel" series, inspired by Michael Graves and Richard Emir's use of beams and columns in the post-modernist style, reveals the artist's ability to transform otherwise staid structures into a powerful statement of form, lines. The stark simplicity of design reflects the spirit of today's high-rise buildings.

But it is her "Butterscotch" series that is truly masterly in both the rich juxtaposition of textures and colors, not to mention surprises from those geometric shapes. The suite showcases Baluyut's innate abstract sensibility, combining design and accident, reason and intuition—everything that matters in a show that truly succeeds in both senses, literally and figuratively.

The "Fields of Gold" exhibit will be at The Podium in Ortigas Center until July 20.

Meanwhile, in her first solo show, "Love among the Roses" (Asia Art Gallery, Art Plaza, Shangri-La Plaza, until July 16), Claire Yen (formerly Claireyenne Malanyaon) explores a wide spectrum of romantic engagements and the most emphatic expressions of what is perhaps the most natural thing for lovers to do.

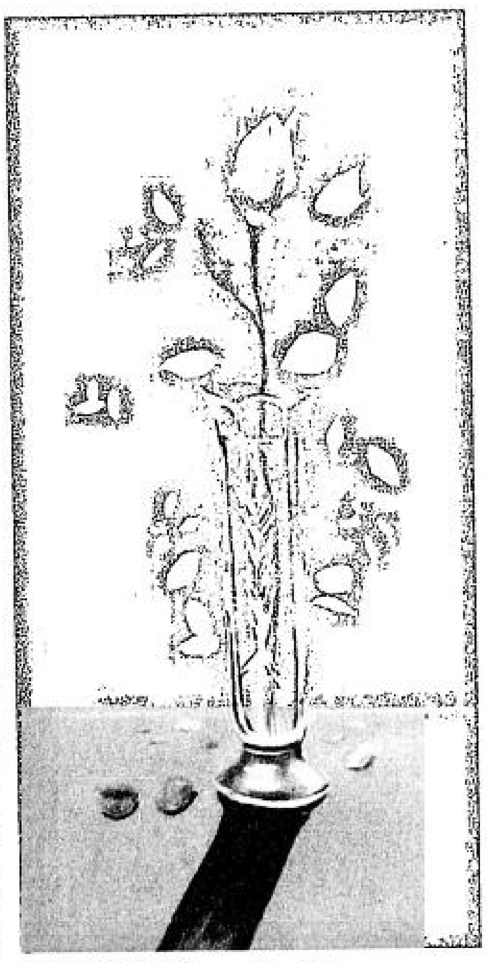
The way the physical therapist-turned-painter limns the bodies of her figures—in pre- and post-coital moments—is seductively alluring, especially with the rich ambience she has created with images of wind-blown rose petals and limpid beads of water flowing down heated bodies.

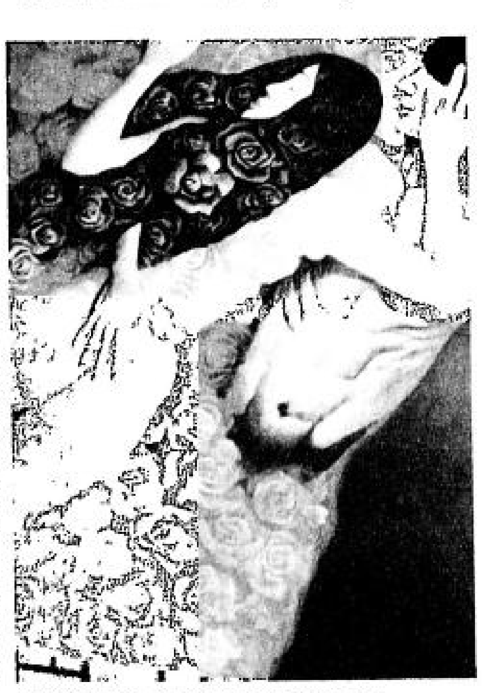
Easily the most striking pieces are "Dreamers," a self-portrait in a maze of red roses, a la "American Beauty"; and "Love on the Rise," where a pair of lovers in dishabille is welcomed by a rain of petals. A surreal wit, at work in these images, finds fruition in "Shine of Love," a still life of a solitary white rose in a sleek glass vase, a counterpoint to a shower of wind-blown petals.

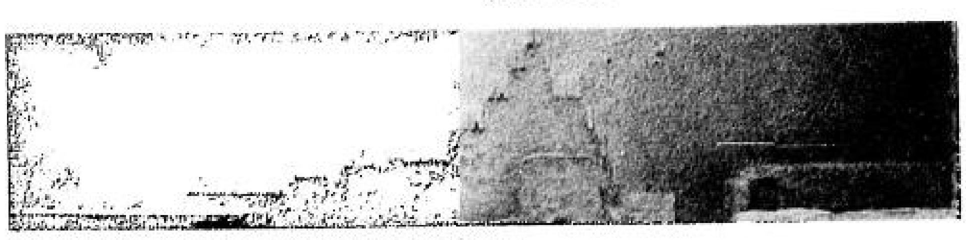
It is quite obvious the artist has been through love and pain in equal measure, experiencing the many trials lovers have to go through in a relationship. What sets her apart is her unusual dexterity in depicting the male nude, a skill acquired from years as a therapist to professional basketball players and show-business personalities.

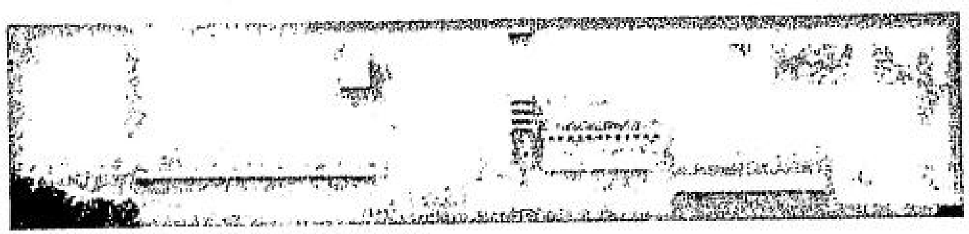
In this coming-out show, the art of loving takes center stage, infused with a rosy feeling only someone who has intimately known it can justifiably paint it.

E-mail the author at gdormiendo@yahoo.com


"THE SHINE of Love," by Malanyaon


"EYES Wide Shut," by Malanyaon


"CAMBODIAN Temples" IV, by Karina Baluyut


CAMBODIAN Temples" V, by Baluyut

Friendship in living colors

Text and photos by Linda B. Bolido

FRIENDSHIP was celebrated in color—literally—when four of the country's most respected painters mounted an exhibit in Xiamen to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between the Philippines and China.

The show of the Cuatro Amigos, consisting of Malang, Julius Limpe, Manny Baldemor and Al Perez, was part of the year-long celebration of the event 30 years ago. In Beijing, stylist Rachy Cuna also mounted an exhibit of paintings, floral arrangements and limited-edition jewelry to commemorate the historic occasion on June 9, 1975.

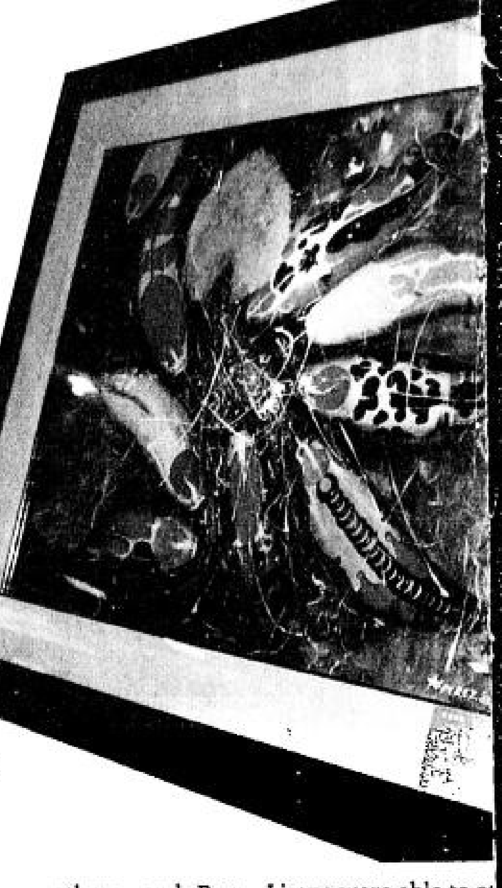
Held June 12-19, the Cuatro Amigos' exhibit also celebrated the Philippine Independence Day.

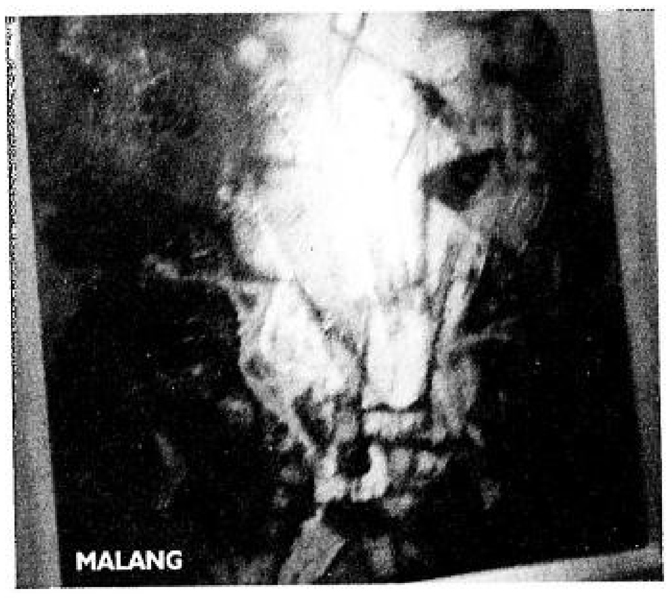
The show's venue, SM City Xiamen, was highly symbolic—representing not only the history but also the evolution of ties between the two Asian countries. Though SM founder Henry Sy traces his roots to China, the store chain has become almost as much a symbol of the Philippines as the jeepney, for instance, its distinctive box-like architecture now a major landmark in many parts of the country.

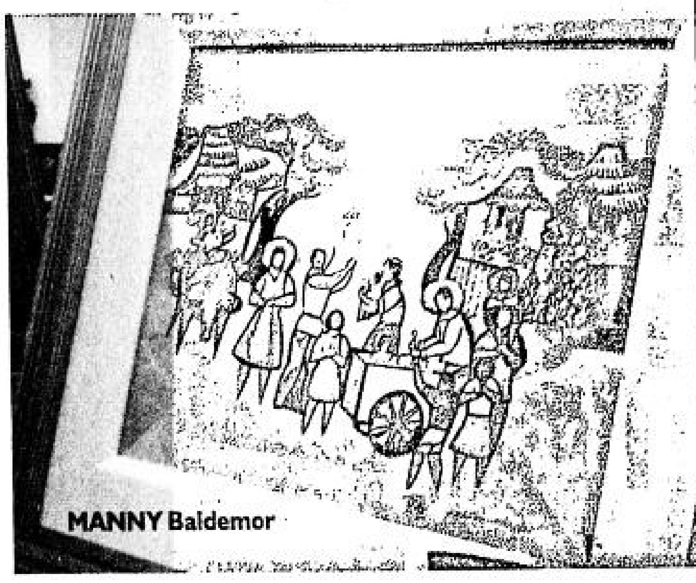
The 126,000-sq m Xiamen mall also represents the evolution of Philippine-China relations that began about a millennium ago. While before, Chinese traders came to the Philippines, a contact that had its impact on the host country's culture, tradition and even racial composition, the Filipinos are now bringing their business to China. Aside from Sy, other high-profile Filipinos that are doing business in the neighboring country include Lucio Tan of Asia Brewery and Fortune Tobacco, among others, and Ben Chan of the Bench chain, one of the Philippine-based merchandisers at SM City Xiamen, which opened in 2001.

Only Perez, a member of the Association for Philippine-China Understanding (Apcu) established four years before diplomatic ties were forged, and Limpe were able to at hibit initiated by th consul general in Xia zon Yap-Bahjin.

The week-long ex ated a lot of interest nese art lovers and pa local painters also vie ipino artists' works a cussions with Perez a


AL Perez


MALANG


MANNY Baldemor

Aviado at Avellana, Perez at Alliance Française, Cobie Cruz at West, young artists at Penguin

VISUAL ARTS

VIRGILIO "Pandy" Aviado interrogates the limits of scale and articulates miniature worlds in his latest offering, "Multum in Parvo," which opens today at Avellana Art Gallery, A-19, 2680 F.B. Harrison St. Pasay City (fronting Gideon Academy). Inspired by graphic art, the images are pure studies on form, shape and color. Call 8338357.

PETER Sutcliffe holds an exhibition of oil and watercolor landscapes until July 13 at Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati. Call 8415547.

THE OASIS presents paintings and sculptures of 20 artists until July 17 at 169 Aurora Boulevard, San Juan. Exhibited are "Wind and Soul" by Impy Pilapil; "Imposed," by Claude Tayag; and "Red," by Gus Albor. Call 7214585.

THE BIG & Small Art Co. features "Ladies' Room" by Michelle Pauline Lim, Marga Rodriguez and Mitch Empleo-Ventura. For Lim, the show is a "psychological narrative." Rodriguez turns to Indian Madhubani folk painting for inspiration while Ventura merges painting and graphic design in her new works. The exhibit is set today until July 24 at level 4, Artwalk, Megamall A. Call 6877425.

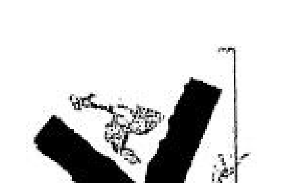
RAMON Manuel de Leon has been appropriating existing images for his art-making, juxtaposing familiar icons and creating new, often jarring combinations. In "Anomalous," De Leon's one-man show at Galleria Duemila, 4/L, Megamall A until July 29, the artist takes characters from pop culture, overlapping their imagery and bringing them into a darker realm Call 6343261/ 6336687.

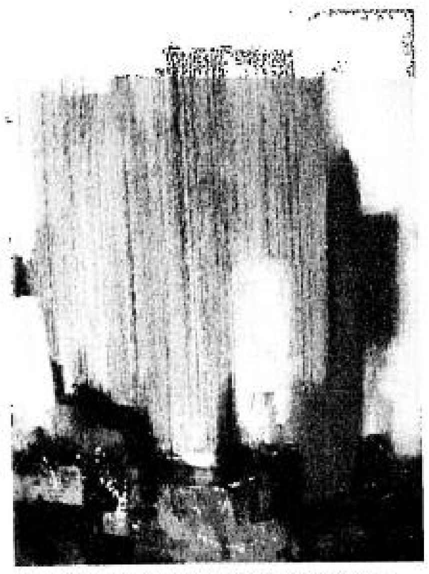
DANTE Perez and **Maria Lourdes de Vera** tread the surreal corridors in a collection of works evocative of uncanny images drawn from their own shadowy selves. Their exhibit, "Umbra Penumbra," runs today until July 29 at Alliance Française Total Gallery, 209 N. Garcia St., Bel-Air II, Makati. Call 8957441/ 8957585.

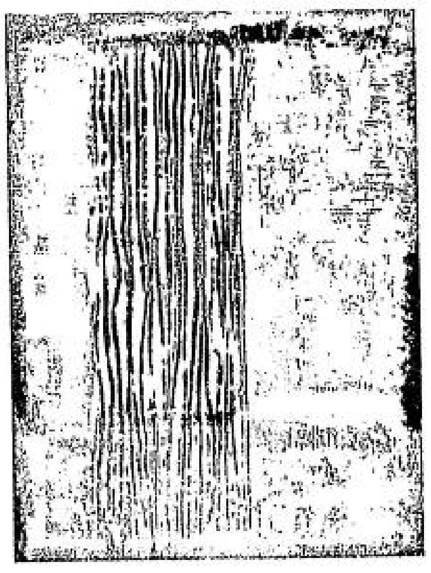
PEP Manalang has been living a double life—half of the year in the United States with her husband, two or three months in the Philippines. This is the cycle she follows and it is reflected in her show "Double Life" in Finale Art File. The exhibit runs today until July 29 at Room 403, LaO Center, cor. of Pasay Road and Makati Avenue, Makati. Call 8132310.

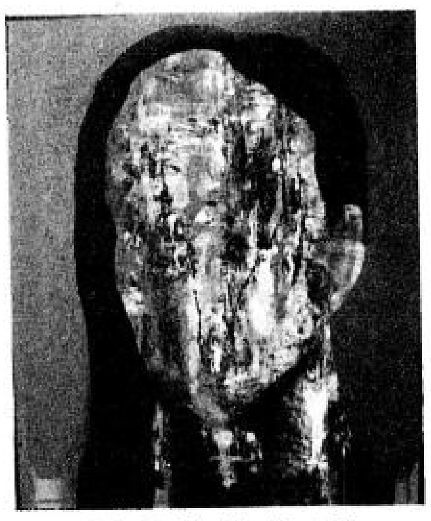
COBIE Cruz interprets falling rain on paper and canvas in his first solo exhibit "Precipitation (Purple Series)." The show, which features 30 new works in acrylic, runs tomorrow until July 30 at West Gallery, located in Mary Santos Arcade, 48 West Ave., QC. Call 4110336/ 4119221.

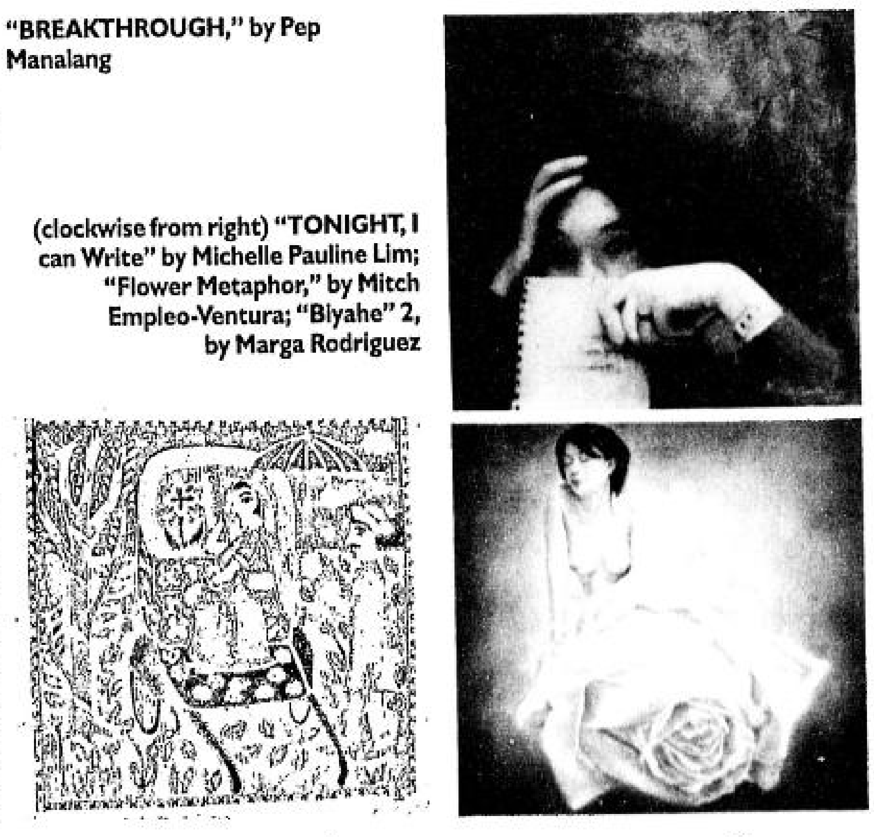
"CONVERGE," a group show of young artists Farley del Rosario, Rafel del Rosario, Tatong, Reneboy Cuvos and Ellen Valen, will open on July 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the Penguin Café and Gallery, 604 Remedios St., Malate, Manila.


BY Pandy Aviado

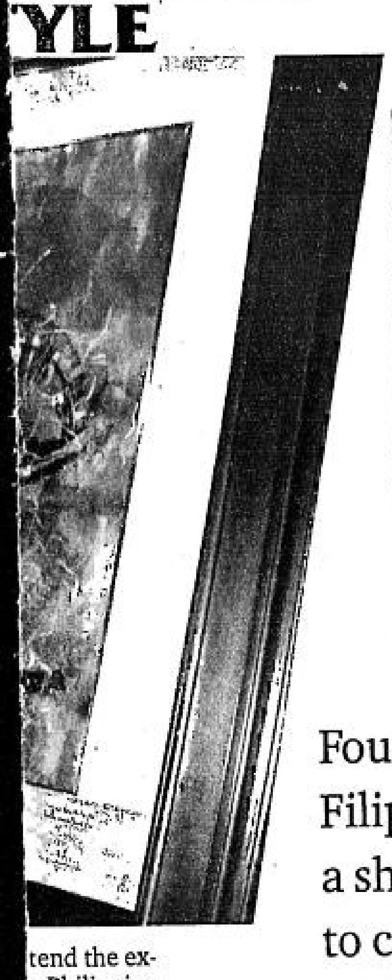

"PASSING Rain" II, by Cobie Cruz


"BREAKTHROUGH," by Pep Manalang


"DAMA de Noche," by Dante Perez

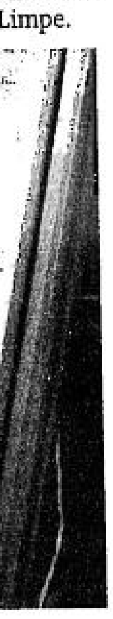

(clockwise from right) "TONIGHT, I can Write" by Michelle Pauline Lim; "Flower Metaphor," by Mitch Empleo-Ventura; "Biyahe" 2, by Marga Rodriguez

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



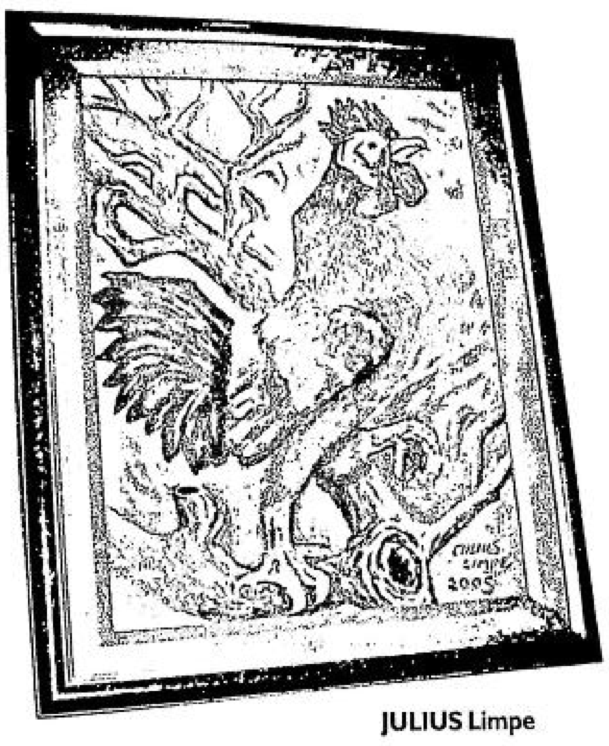
tend the ex-
Philippine
men, Cora-

hibit gener-
among Chi-
trons. Many
wed the Fil-
nd had dis-
d Limpe.



'CUATRO AMIGOS'
Goes to China at SM Mall, Xiamen China
June 12-19, 2005

Four highly respected Filipino artists mounted a show in Xiamen to celebrate 30 years of diplomatic relations



JULIUS Limpe

UK briefings at British Council

BRITISH Council Philippines annually holds a briefing for individuals who wish to study in or visit the UK.

"Welcome to the UK" will cover details on accommodation, climate and weather, preparations for entry clearance, cost of living, culture, communication and basic British laws.

Individuals who wish to study in the UK may choose one of the following dates: July 25 and 26, and Aug. 1 and 2.

First-time visitors to the UK may choose July 27 or 28, and Aug. 3 or 4. All briefings are held from 2-5 p.m.

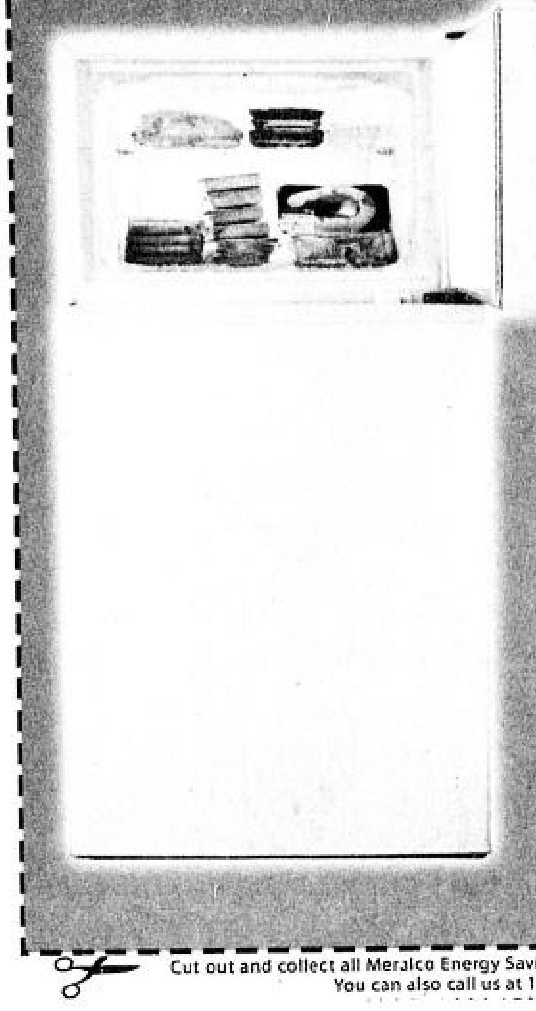
The briefings will be held at the British Council Philippines' Knowledge Learning Centre, 10/F Taipan Place, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. Registration fee is P300.

Call 9141011 to 14. Visit www.britishcouncil.org.ph.

Photo exhibit of hot air balloon festival

The Hot Air Balloon Club of the Philippines will open a photo exhibit of the Philippine International Hot Air Balloon Fiesta today, 5:30 p.m., at the lounge of The Podium. The photos were taken during the recent hot air balloon fiesta at Clark Field, Pampanga. To open the exhibit is Tourism Secretary Joseph Durano. Jose Mari Roa of the PIHABF will also announce the launch of the 2006 festival.

"SAILORS, Monks and Church Builders," the exhibit at the San Agustin Museum to mark the 400th anniversary of the construction of San Agustin Church, was opened recently. Cutting the ribbon are Dr. Javier Galvan, director of Instituto Cervantes; Manila Mayor Lito Atienza; Fr. Pedro Galende, OSA, director of the San Agustin Museum; Spanish Ambassador Ignacio Sagaz; and Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales



Save some cold cash on your electric bill.

Accounting for a significant portion of your household's total energy use, your refrigerator can have a major impact on your energy bill. So here are some energy-saving tips that can be useful to you.

1. Place refrigerators at least 4 inches from the wall to give it enough room to breathe. Heat can cause the motor and the compressor to heat up and use more energy.
2. Clean condenser coils twice a year using a vacuum cleaner or broom. Your refrigerator will run more efficiently with cleaner coils.
3. Make sure refrigerator doors seal tightly to prevent cold air from escaping.
4. Defrost the refrigerator before frost builds up to 1/4 inch to keep it running efficiently.
5. Buy models with the highest Energy Efficiency Factor (EEF).

Check out www.meralco.com.ph and see how the Meralco Appliance Calculator (MAC) can help you save today.

The power to save power.
All yours.

The power to change power.
MERALCO

Cut out and collect all Meralco Energy Saving Tips ads. For more tips, text MERTIPS REF to 2366.
You can also call us at 16211 or visit www.meralco.com.ph

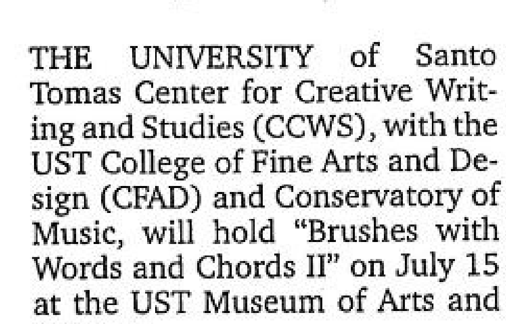
Remember the Jai Alai?

From page D1

tribution to the city's stressed ecology.

Construction excavation is underway at Arroceros. Tempers continue to fly on either side of the issue and negotiation is near deadlock. Compromise does not appear to be on the agenda of either side.

Although there are hard and fast rules followed both in preservation as well as in development, agreement might be reached that satisfies the requirements of both sides.



ARROCEROS Park

Who knows? An innovative solution might be reached that provides the smallest construction footprint to maximize open space in Mehan Garden or the Arroceros forest. Buildings and nature can be designed to coexist.

Countless architectural and environmental possibilities exist. It is just a great pity that none of these possibilities were given the opportunity to be talked about and tested.

The Philippines sorely lacks a model of how preservation and development go hand in hand. With the Jai Alai, Mehan Garden, and Arroceros Forest Park, we missed the opportunity to construct such a model. However, I still am hopeful that such a model will arise in the near future.

When all sectors of society join to complete a conservation project where all issues are discussed before the design of the structure is completed, then we will know that the Jai Alai building was not a senseless loss.

Feedback welcome at afvillalon@hotmail.com

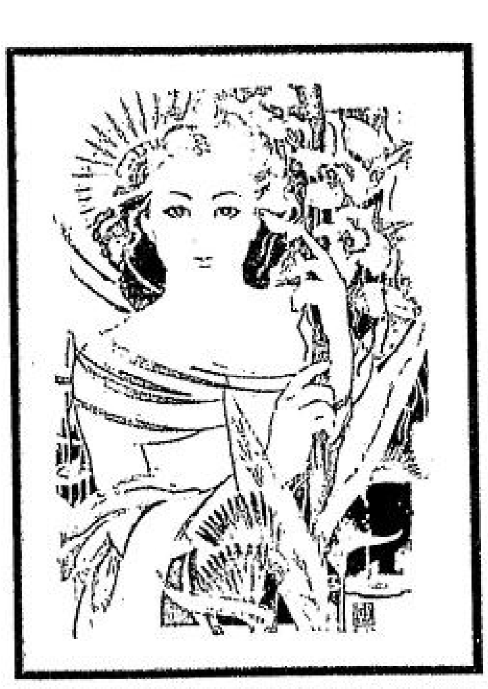
Art, poetry, music in UST show

THE UNIVERSITY of Santo Tomas Center for Creative Writing and Studies (CCWS), with the UST College of Fine Arts and Design (CFAD) and Conservatory of Music, will hold "Brushes with Words and Chords II" on July 15 at the UST Museum of Arts and Sciences.

"Brushes" is a synergy of the arts—poetry, painting and music. The poems—by Ophelia A. Dimalanta, poet-musician Lourd de Veyra, Nerisa del Carmen Guevara, Michael M. Coroza. Ramil Digal Gulle, Eros S. Atalia, Carlos L. Luz, Ralph Galan, Paolo Enrico S. Melendez and Angelo V. Suarez—are inspired by paintings of faculty members and students of the CFAD, including CFAD dean Jaime de los Santos, and professors Buen Franklin Calubayan and Wesley Valenzuela.

The faculty members and students of the Conservatory of Music, led by dean Raul Sunico, provide the music.

To be launched is the special edition of Tomas, the CCWS literary journal, featuring the poems and paintings.



"MAYFLOWER" I by CFAD dean Jaime de los Santos

"Drayton Bird knows more about direct marketing than anyone else in the world."
- David Ogilvy, advertising legend

DRAYTON BIRD
Direct Marketing Guru

5th PHILIPPINE DM/CRM Forum
presents

COMMONSENSE DIRECT MARKETING:
Simple, effective ways to get the most out of your marketing budget!

For only one day this year, learn how to get the most out of your marketing budget by using simple and effective ways from one of the people the UK Chartered Institute of Marketing says shaped the future of marketing. **Drayton Bird,** best-selling author of *Commonsense Direct Marketing*, will be in Manila to teach, share and help you with your direct marketing problems, in sessions guaranteed to be full of wisdom and fun.

AM Sessions and Topics:
- **Direct marketing and CRM strategy:** The simple, straightforward way to plan and build a strategy that works (and why many marketers focus on the wrong things)
- **CRM: Why has so much failed – and how can you succeed?** 10 simple questions for CRM managers that will save you from a lot of misery
- **Drawing up a DM Budget:** How much you should be willing to spend on marketing
- **How to get lots more sales from your ads and mailings.** Avoiding the seven deadly sins of direct marketing
- **Building response and brands:** How Direct Marketing and CRM works – and how it can build your brands
- **Creating, compelling, sticky creatives that deliver response and results:**
a. How to interrogate your product or service and tease out what sets you apart from your competitors
b. How to "climb inside" prospects' minds and understand what's most likely to make them act
c. How to plan and brief so your messages are far more likely to work
d. Plus, FAQs like the following are answered:
  - How do incentives work – and which work best?
  - When, what gimmicks work?
- **Benchmarking:**
a. How to distinguish between good and bad work
b. What works in finance and why so much financial creative fails

LEARNING INVESTMENTS:
Save **P 3,000** off the on-site regular rate when you book and pay on or before **July 15!**

July Early Bird	P 8,977.00 + VAT
July Regular	P 9,977.00 + VAT
August 1-19 Late Bird	P 10,977.00 + VAT
Walk-In Rate	P 11,977*

(If seats are still available)
*fee includes lunch, snacks and workbook

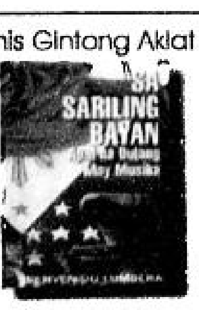
PM Sessions and Topics:
- **Design and Copy:** How design and layout can help – or kill – response
a. How to write so people want to start reading - and keep reading so eagerly they can't wait to reply
b. The thing that's more important than a USP – and how to find it for your business
c. FAQs answered, like:
  - What should go on (or inside) an envelope?
  - How long copy should be?
  - How many pieces should a mailing have?
- **Choosing the right media – internet, email, tv, direct mail, radio, print?:** Proven formulae and techniques that work in all media, on-line and off, print and broadcast.
- **Bonus tip:** What's missing from 90% of messages; plus more of your FAQs are answered:
  - How do you get new ideas?
  - Which parts of a layout people look at?
  - How do you convince people you really are good?
- **Business to Business DM:** What you have to adapt for business-to-business
- **CRM** – One last word. What you really need to know about it.
- A check-list for direct marketing and advertising success you can use every day

Plus! Panel discussion with the best, award-winning Philippine DM practitioners and gurus. Keep up to date on what's happening in the Philippine DM scene with case studies, examples and discussions/clarifications on Mr Bird's lessons.

"The DMForum is great!"
- LEONIDES LOARES, CRM Mgr., Syngenta

Sponsored and supported by INQUIRER
In partnership with: BCD•PINPOINT
Produced and organized by: Bringing out the BEST in you
MEDIADATA Spring

For more information, please call **8132732/03** and ask for Jenny, Fina, Gina or Ardy; or e-mail us at ACTS@inspire.ph or DMFORUM@inspire.ph to book your seats!



WIN this Gintong Aklat today!
Buknoy
Ni Bienvenido L. Lumbera
Inilathala ng De La Salle University Press, Inc.

July 11, 2005 Today's Question:
Who is the author of the award-winning work *Days of Disquiet, Nights of Rage*?
A. Rowena Tiempo Torrevillas B. Sylvia Mayuga C. Jose Lacaba

Pre-register as follows: Text NBDB<space>REG<space>Name<space>Address<space>Age<space>Sex and send to 283 for Smart/Talk 'N Text/Addict Mobile and 2378 for Globe/Touch Mobile.

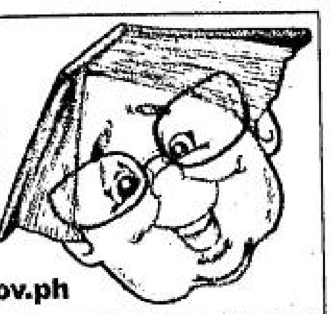
Text answer as follows: Text NBDB<space>answer and send to 283 for Smart/Talk 'N Text/Addict Mobile and 2378 for Globe/Touch Mobile.

Join Aklat, Buklat, Mulat Txt Quiz Powered by Mobile Concepts Asia

07-05-05 Winner
Romuella Idia,
Country Village, Bari,
Mangaldan, Pangasinan

07-10-05 Answer: C
The Woman Who Had Two Navels is a work of National Artist Nick Joaquin

visit www.nbdb.gov.ph



BEST COPY AVAILABLE

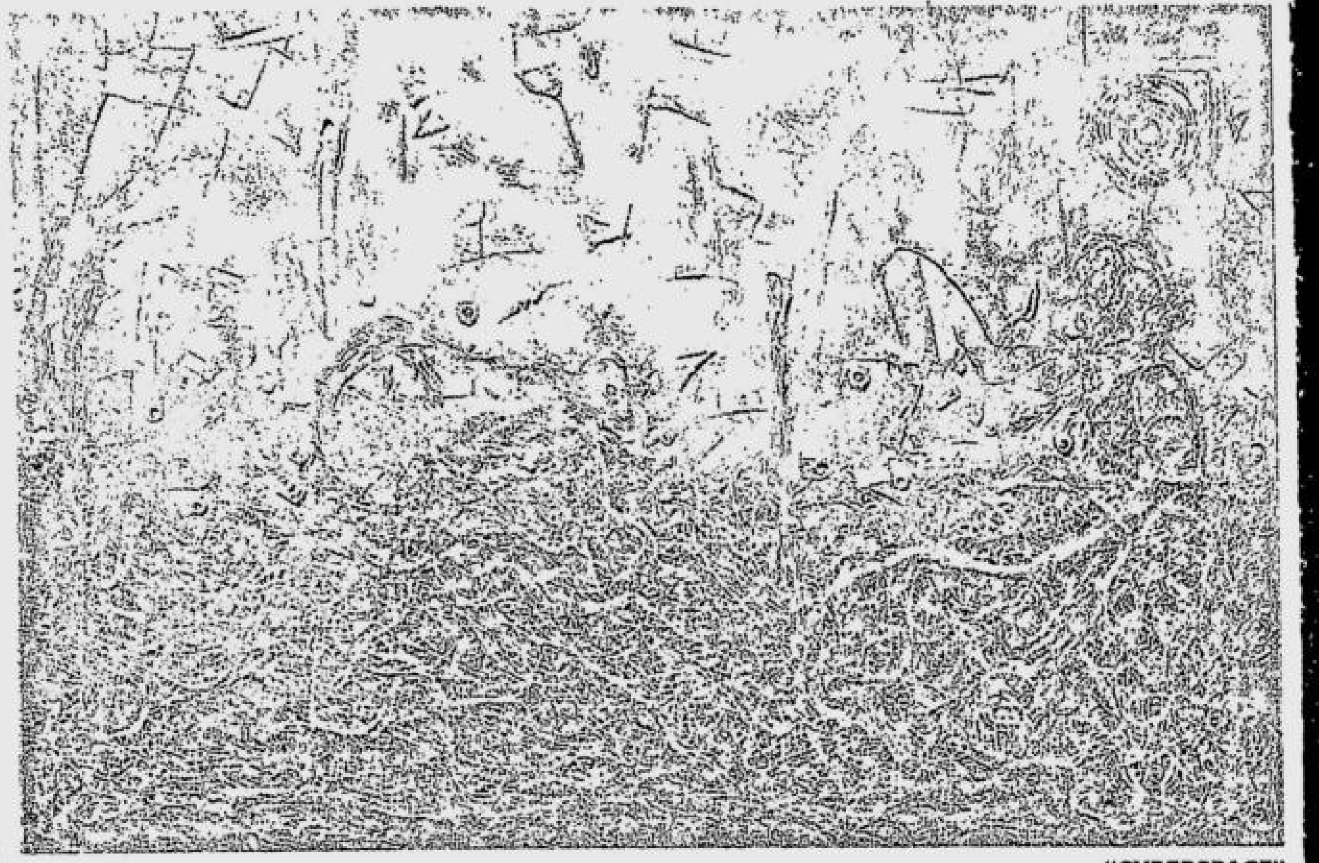
New men's mag launched this week

THE FIRST edition of Pump, the new magazine edited by former FHM editor Eric Ramos, will be released this week. The inaugural cover girl is Chynna Ortaleza, the former GMA teenybopper who is now a curvaceous 22-year-old.

On July 12, Pump will hold a grand launch party at the NBC Tent. Pump is published by Big Ticket Publishing Corporation.

The first issue features a provocative interview with comedy king Dolphy, a confession by a former Abu Sayyaf assassin, a comprehensive guide to the 68th UAAP season, and an exclusive story on former PBA star Rudy Distrito, who is now in a Las Vegas prison facing murder charges.

The first issue also introduces X-Rated Challenge, a regular activity column by Viva Hot Babes Ella V. and Myles Hernandez. Every month, Ella and Myles will administer naughty dares and challenges to guest celebrities. Another regular feature of the magazine is Crimson Galatea, a sci-fi comic series featuring photographs of live human characters set against colorful illustrations. Written and illustrated by Dwight Gaston, Crimson Galatea stars R'U Miranda in the title role.



"CYBERSPACE"

Ronaldo Ruiz's vision and polish

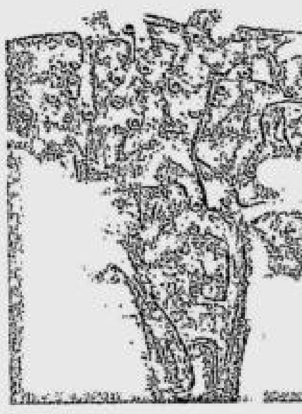
By Constantino C. Tejero

TO HAVE held a solo show in the ample exhibition area of the Art Center is usually seen in the local art circle as a gauge that the artist has arrived.

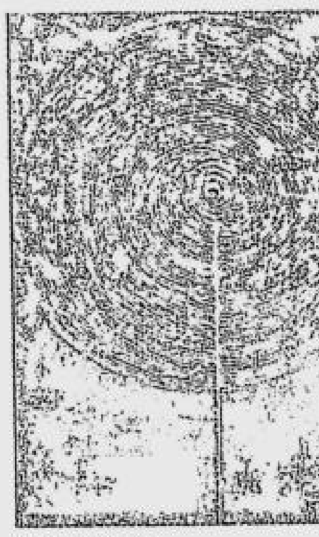
But whether or not Ronaldo Ruiz ever put up an exhibit there should be irrelevant. We have long regarded this young artist of considerable talent to have long arrived.

To celebrate Ruiz's 13th year as artist, Renaissance Art Gallery recently presented his 11th one-man exhibit, "Refreshed," 29 medium-to-large pieces and 100 small panels in acrylic and mixed media (fiber, sand, modeling paste) on canvas, in the Art Center at the Artwalk, L/4, Bldg. A, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City.

Says the exhibit note: "It recaps the development of his art since he started his series of abstract paintings based on themes of technology, struggle and life in the contemporary world. His Filipino identity is seen in the daily struggle to transform his experiences of living in Metro Manila into an artistic practice of colors, textures and patterns which are disciplined through sublimation, complementation and balance between positive and negative, yin and yang, struggle and fulfillment."



"SERVER"



"LOADING"

While most artists who use mixed media just jumble or haphazardly juxtapose the disparate materials on the canvas, every piece by Ruiz looks carefully handcrafted.

His art has a polish hitherto unseen in many of his contemporaries. His vision may be recondite, but the resulting pieces are visually appealing.

They range from small to mural-size, from vertical to horizontal format, either square or rectangle. As seen in the artist's previous exhibits, they are still dominated by green, red, gold and blue, vigorously applied.

And they carry computer terms for titles: "Server," "Hardware," "Cyberspace," "Upgrade," "Link," "Network," "Loading," "Passwords," "Log in," "Memory," "Start up," "My Document A-H" (consisting of eight panels), "Restore A & B" (diptych), "Interactive A-E" (polyptych), "Pixels" (100 panels).

We don't know, of course, how these specific titles are related to the particular hues and shapes we see on the canvas. Their inspiration could be quite personal to the artist that each piece looks esoteric.

Ruiz is also a performance artist of some skill, imagination and daring, performing from Bulacan to Tokyo, from Rizal Park and the Philcoa overpass to Sydney and Bangkok. He is the convenor of Tupada, the performance art collaborative events.

For the 13-day duration of this exhibit, he did a performance called "Third Eye" in the stockroom behind the Art Center. He appropriated that enclosed area as his "exclusive abode and installation site," where he did his daily routine "as artist and normal human being."

This was monitored on a TV screen through a miniature camera attached to his forehead. Audiences could view the performance in the exhibition area.

A Fine Arts graduate from University of the East, Ruiz was twice awarded the Jurors' Choice at the Art Association of the Philippines annual competition; twice the Jurors' Choice at the Philip Morris Philippine Art Awards; Best Entry in the AAP Centennial Painting Contest.

In 2003, he was given the Thirteen Artists Award by the Cultural Center of the Philippines—regarded by many as the surest indication that a Filipino artist has truly arrived.

CHINABANK
Since 1920
GRATEFUL at 85
ANNIVERSARY PROMO
GRAND PRIZE
P2.85 MILLION
Celebrating 85 years of partnership with an outpouring of prizes

As your partner for almost 85 years, we at China Bank are overflowing with gratitude for your continued trust and support. In appreciation of this long and fruitful partnership, we offer an outpouring of prizes as we celebrate our 85th anniversary on August 16, 2005!

1. Get a raffle number every month
   - For every P5,000 monthly ADB (Regular Savings, ChinaCheck Plus, MoneyPlus Account)
   - For every US$500 for China Bank Dollar Savings Account.
   - For every P500,000 availed HomePlus or AutoPlus loans.
2. More chances to win in 4 Preliminary Draws and Grand Draw - all non- winning raffle numbers qualify for succeeding draws and Grand Draw.
   - Four chances to win a Savings Deposit Account worth P85,000, one of 85 cellphones and one of 85 DVD players.
   - Plus, a chance to win a home entertainment system, videocam, getaway package and P2.85 million cash prize in the Grand Draw!

1 Winner of a HK Tour for 2 with pocket money in the Grand Draw
1 Winner of a Sony VideoCam in the Grand Draw
1 Winner of a Samsung Home Entertainment Package in the Grand Draw

It's so easy to join! More chances to win!
Open an account or avail of a housing or auto loan now!

CASH & GADGETS GALORE IN 4 EXCITING DRAWS!
4 Winners of a Savings Deposit Account worth P85,000.00 in the 4 Preliminary Draws
Total of 85 Winners of a Sony DVD Player in the 4 Preliminary Draws
Total of 85 Winners of a Samsung, Sony Ericsson, Panasonic and Nokia Cellphones in the 4 Preliminary Draws
Forward to 85

PROMO PERIOD: December 2, 2004 to July 31, 2005
PRELIMINARY DRAWS: •February 23, 2005 •April 26, 2005 •June 23, 2005 •August 16, 2005
GRAND DRAW: August 16, 2005
See flyers for details Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 5964, Series of 2004.
CHINABANK
BancNet
PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
Deposits insured up to P250,000 per depositor
Your success is our business

Fly Jet★Asia to Singapore from only USD79.
Daily flights from Ninoy Aquino Int'l Airport.
Book online
www.JetstarAsia.com
Call centre (Metro Manila)
9003051
Qantas Airways Ltd
8104744
Terms & conditions apply. Check website for details

MAKE EVERY MEAL REFRESHINGLY SPECIAL.
NESTEA
Plunge into the Mix
All-out refreshment with 100% RDA Vitamin C in every ice-cold pitcher. Make sure you don't run out, mom!

SINGKIT
NEW YORK
STYLE CHINESE
FOOD DELIVERY
AT YOUR DOOR STEP
MON.-SAT. /10AM-10PM / MAKATI
816 1269 or
892 2551

MONDAY,
JULY 11, 2005
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
LIFESTYLE
E1
For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback:
inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

DUNKIN' DONUTS
₱72only
Free!
when you buy
9 Sea-Tees
Save ₱24.75

Elias and His Trees

Moving eco-fable

By Neni Sta. Romana-Cruz
Contributor

FROM our childhood reading, we have vague recollections of legendary men who made it their mission to plant trees, such as the American folk figures Johnny Appleseed and Paul Bunyan.

Today, Elias, a shepherd who lived in the obscure town of Tierra Verde in southern Philippines and collected seeds to plant singlehandledly, is bound to join the gallery of such heroes, thanks to a handsome new book, "Elias and His Trees (Mga Puno ni Elias)," written in Filipino Augie Rivera, with English translation by Augie and Mike Rivera, illustrations by Romeo Forbes, and published by Canvas and UST Publishing House, 2005.

The story is adapted from the timeless story of the French writer, Jean Giono, which was first published in Vogue in the '50s.

The story begins with an intriguing detail: the Filipino migrant mother of the narrator explains that it must have been the moles on the soles of their feet that brought her and her husband to seek a better life in the

MOVING/ E3

SKIN BLEMISHES?
All gone with IPL!

The favorite skin treatment of the stars is now within your reach!

This is it! THE BIGGEST offer you've been waiting for! Get 40% OFF on IPL from July 11-16, 2005.
Per DTI-NCR Permit #3917, Series of 2005

Erase your bothersome age spots, freckles and spider veins with IPL Photorejuvenation Treatment from Facial Care Centre. Using a broad spectrum of light, IPL safely targets your pigments and abnormal blood vessels. These unwanted blemishes become fragmented and dissipate leaving no trace for a rejuvenated, smoother and totally clear skin. You, too, can be among the many women who enjoy IPL's excellent results and experience the beauty of having truly blemish-free, flawless skin.

IPL - it really works! Call the Facial Care Centre now and ask about our IPL.

facial care centre

Where Beautiful Skin Happens
www.facialcarecentre.com.ph
CALL 892-SKIN (7546)
MAKATI ORTIGAS TOMAS MORATO BINONDO ALABANG SHAW CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA (961-3404) CEBU (233-7631)

IPL - The Blemish Eraser.
See The Results Right Away!

Want to know how famous celebrities manage to keep their skin looking fresh, glowing and flawless all the time? It's not just make-up. It's IPL Photorejuvenation Treatment!

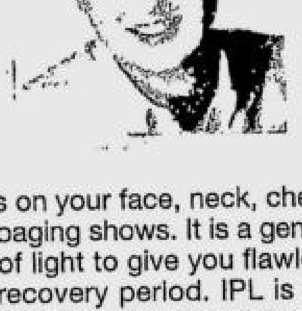
Real people who have tried this favorite treatment of the stars are now loving its amazing results! Here, they share their love affair with the 3-in-1 treatment for freckles, age spots and spider veins.

What makes IPL different from other treatments?
Dr. Ariel Torres: As an avid golfer, I had freckles from overexposure to the sun. I've tried every whitening product you can possibly think of: whitening cream, whitening lotion, sunblock, scrub, I even bought this thing from Hong Kong that you're supposed to drink to lighten your skin...nothing! It lightens up your skin for a while but you can't expose yourself to the sun anymore. And for avid players like me, that's totally unthinkable! So when I tried IPL, I was really impressed. Just after the first treatment, there were already visible, dramatic results! IPL is really the only treatment that worked for me.

Jenny Icasas

What made you try the IPL Photorejuvenation Treatment?
Jenny Icasas: [illegible]

What do you love most about IPL?
Janet Ley, *Businesswoman*: I love IPL because it really works! After only my second treatment, my freckles are gone! I believe my freckles became more prominent as I got older so whenever I went out of the house, I would use face powder to cover them up. But now I don't use anything anymore because they're all gone! And people tell me that I have really nice, flawless skin.



What's the best compliment you've received about your skin?
Daniel Go, *Architect*: When I was undergoing treatments, my fellow golfers would tease me about being so vain and conscious since most of them have the same problem (dark spots) as mine and were not doing anything about it. They said skincare treatments are only for women and celebrities. But after my treatments, they kept saying my skin looks so much better and it's really worth it. Now they want to try IPL as well.

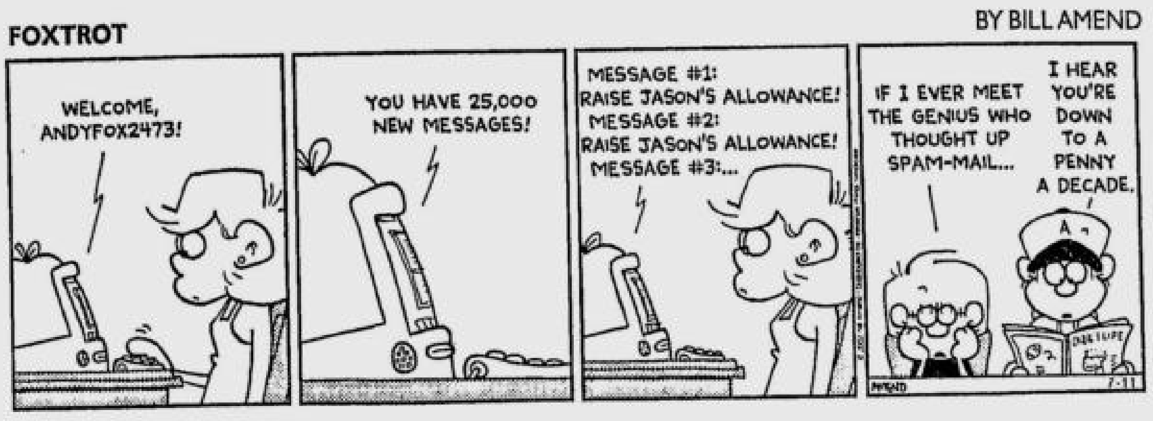
IPL Machine Treatment

IPL Photorejuvenation Treatment can banish freckles, age spots and spider veins on your face, neck, chest, back, hands, and anywhere that sun damage or photoaging shows. It is a gentle, non-invasive treatment that uses a broad spectrum of light to give you flawless skin without the sunburn-like appearance or long recovery period. IPL is the only 3-in-1 treatment that really works! No wonder it's everyone's favorite treatment.

Make IPL work wonders for your skin, too. Call the Facial Care Centre professionals now for your free consultation at 892-SKIN.

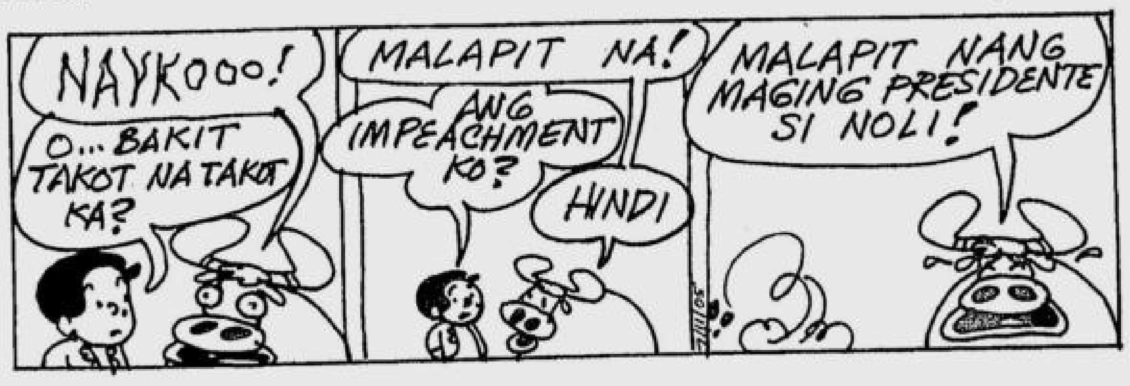
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


WELCOME, ANDYFOX2473!
YOU HAVE 25,000 NEW MESSAGES!
MESSAGE #1: RAISE JASON'S ALLOWANCE! MESSAGE #2: RAISE JASON'S ALLOWANCE! MESSAGE #3:...
IF I EVER MEET THE GENIUS WHO THOUGHT UP SPAM-MAIL...
I HEAR YOU'RE DOWN TO A PENNY A DECADE.
AMEND
7-11

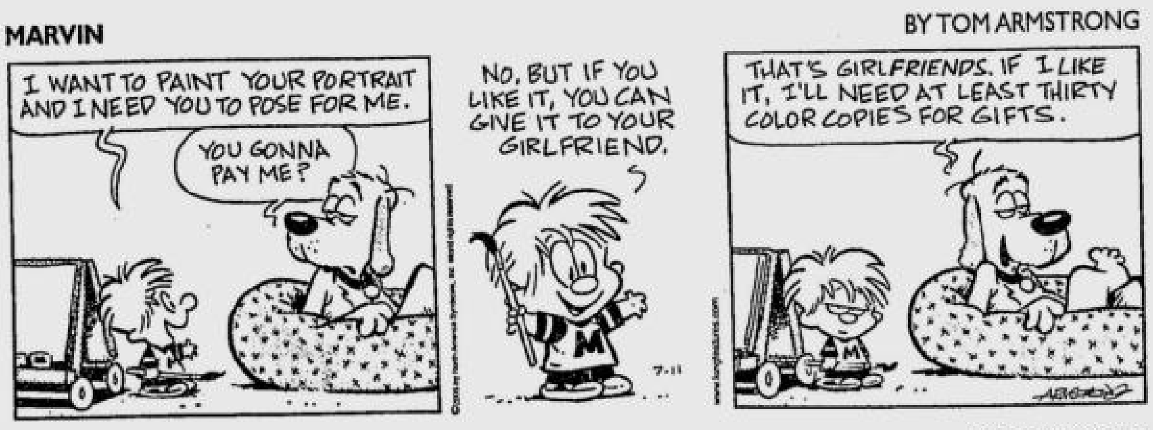
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


NAYKOOO!
O... BAKIT TAKOT NA TAKOT KA?
MALAPIT NA!
ANG IMPEACHMENT KO?
HINDI
MALAPIT NANG MAGING PRESIDENTE SI NOLI!

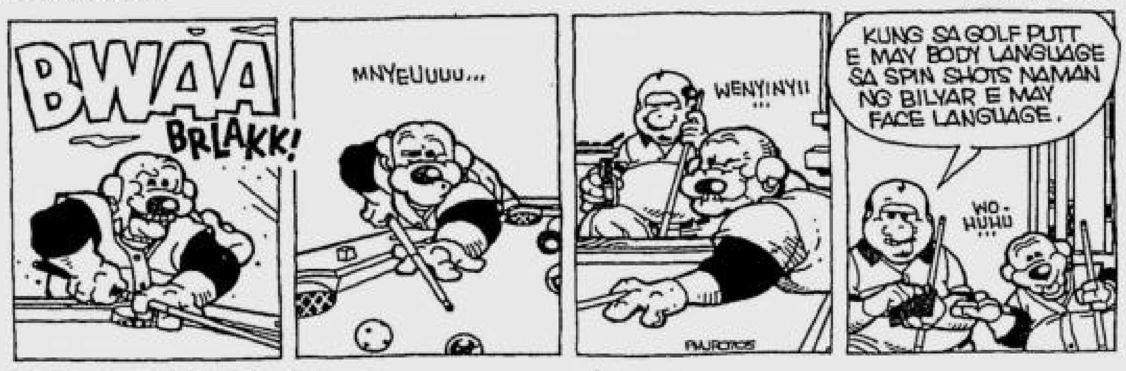
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


I WANT TO PAINT YOUR PORTRAIT AND I NEED YOU TO POSE FOR ME.
YOU GONNA PAY ME?
NO, BUT IF YOU LIKE IT, YOU CAN GIVE IT TO YOUR GIRLFRIEND.
THAT'S GIRLFRIENDS. IF I LIKE IT, I'LL NEED AT LEAST THIRTY COLOR COPIES FOR GIFTS.
7-11

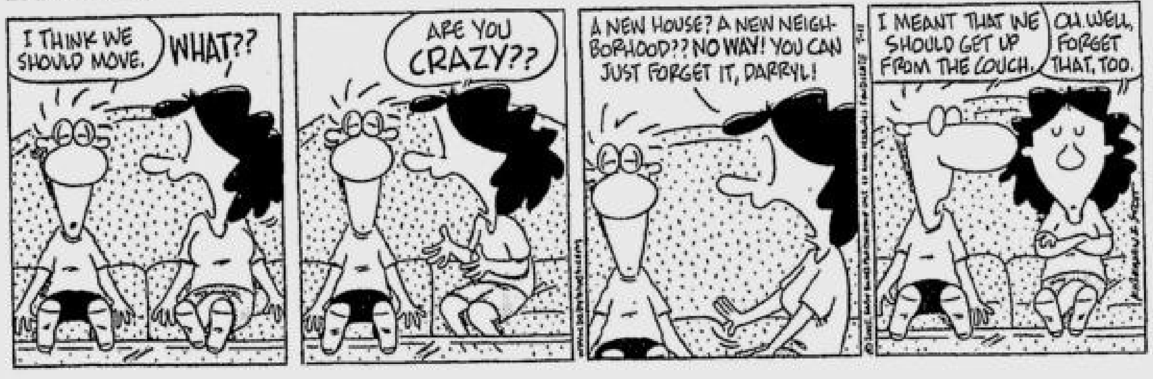
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


BWAA
BRLAKK!
MNYEUUUU...
WENYINYII
KUNG SA GOLF PUTT E MAY BODY LANGUAGE SA SPIN SHOTS NAMAN NG BILYAR E MAY FACE LANGUAGE.
WO-HUHU

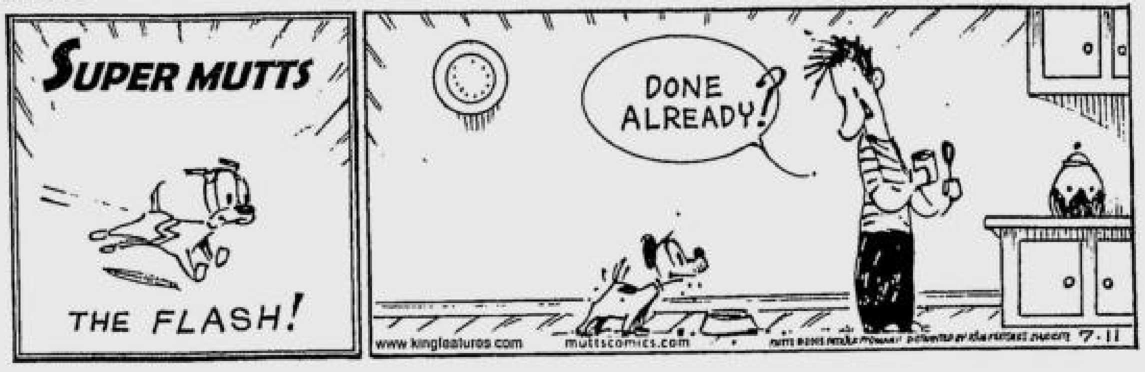
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


I THINK WE SHOULD MOVE.
WHAT??
ARE YOU CRAZY??
A NEW HOUSE? A NEW NEIGHBORHOOD?? NO WAY! YOU CAN JUST FORGET IT, DARRYL!
I MEANT THAT WE SHOULD GET UP FROM THE COUCH.
OH, WELL, FORGET THAT, TOO.

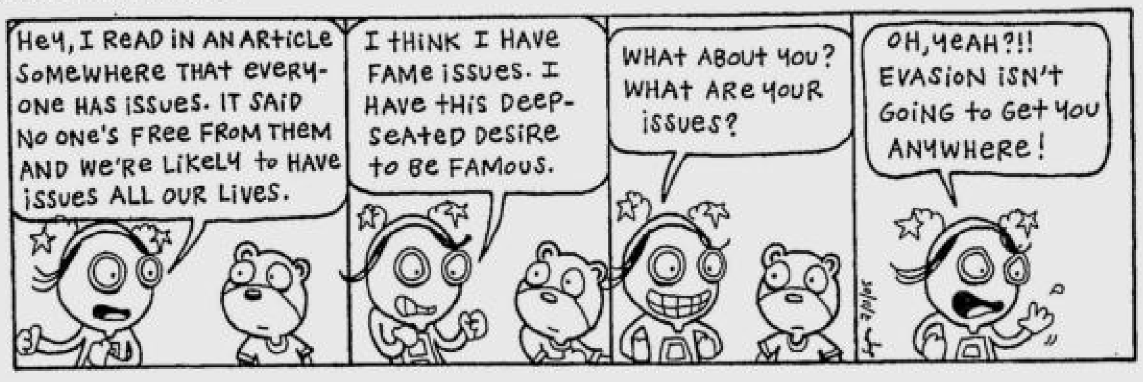
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


SUPER MUTTS
THE FLASH!
DONE ALREADY?!
www.kingfeatures.com
muttscomics.com
7-11

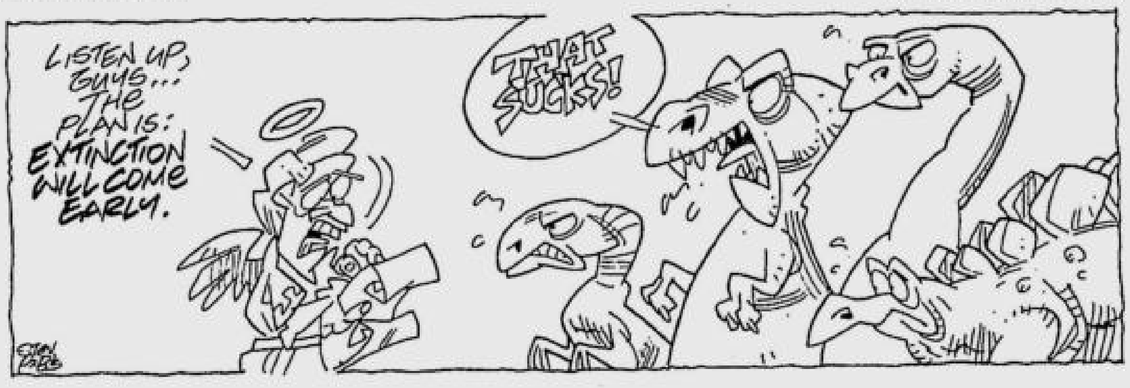
ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


Hey, I READ IN AN ARTICLE SOMEWHERE THAT EVERYONE HAS ISSUES. IT SAID NO ONE'S FREE FROM THEM AND WE'RE LIKELY TO HAVE ISSUES ALL OUR LIVES.
I THINK I HAVE FAME ISSUES. I HAVE THIS DEEP-SEATED DESIRE TO BE FAMOUS.
WHAT ABOUT YOU? WHAT ARE YOUR ISSUES?
OH, YEAH?!! EVASION ISN'T GOING TO GET YOU ANYWHERE!

DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


LISTEN UP, GUYS... THE PLAN IS: EXTINCTION WILL COME EARLY.
THAT SUCKS!

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You have a dogged persistence about anything that matters to you. You're not a quitter. You are well-intentioned, noble and enormously reliable and stable. You like to be around water. Family relationships matter to you. Work hard in the year ahead because you will build and construct physical or organizational structures that will serve you well.
Birthdate of: Sela Ward, actress; Giorgio Armani, designer; Suzanne Vega, singer.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): You could fall in love with "being in love" today. You definitely have rose-colored glasses on. That's why somebody looks too good to be true.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Be extra-clear in all your communications with others today, especially family members. There's something confusing in the air. In fact, someone might even deceive you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Double-check all your dealings with others today. This is a very poor day to sign a contract or to agree to important negotiations.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Be extremely careful of all financial negotiations today. Make sure you get the correct change when you purchase things. Make sure you understand what you're buying.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Be careful of your close relationships today. Your own unrealistic ideals could lead you to a big disappointment. You might not know what you really want.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): This is a confusing day. You might feel that you're selfless, giving even to the point of being a martyr. But are you really? (It's easy to kid yourself today.)

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): There's a real danger of being confused by somebody today, even someone senior. Of course, the deception could be because of your own unrealistic expectations.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Don't trust that you have all the facts today. Somebody could throw you a curveball. If you think someone is playing fast and loose with the truth, then trust your gut instincts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): The study of exotic subjects might intrigue you today. Your imagination is working overtime. Idealistic feelings might draw you to a particular teacher. (Question everything.)

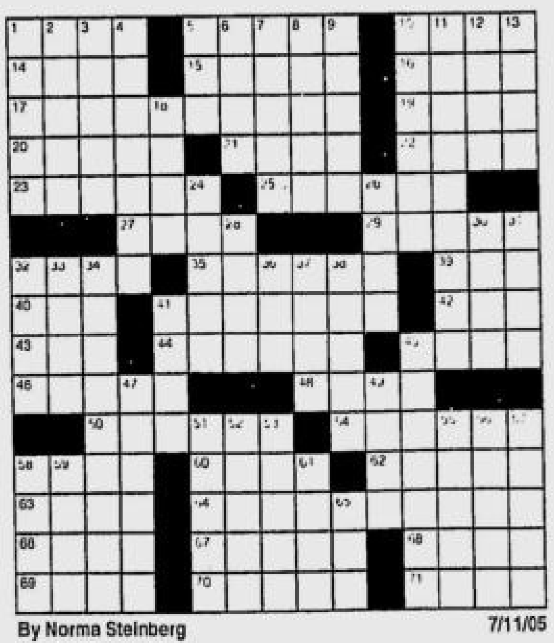
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Be careful about decisions related to shared property or what you owe someone. Don't get carried away by melodrama or a sob story.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): You might have to look in the mirror if you feel disappointed in someone else today. Perhaps you were expecting too much from someone?

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): Make sure someone needs your help before you extend it today. You might not have the full story. Be cooperative with others, but don't be a chump.

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Mrs. Truman
5 Out of style
10 Constellation component
14 Writer Rice
15 First in a series
16 __ bene
17 Move to avoid
19 Novelist Oz
20 Backspace over
21 Tale
22 Dudley Doright's grp.
23 Family cars
25 Yap or bazoo
27 Gradual diminution
29 Typical
32 Disorderly throngs
35 Bummer!
39 Rink surface
40 Ostrichlike bird
41 The blues
42 Black or Salton
43 Very dry, as wine
44 Dethrone
45 Comic Foxx
46 Twistable joint
48 In addition
50 Throws
54 Fail to follow suit
58 Little piggies
60 Word of woe
62 Hits on the head
63 Spanish cheers
64 Upward trend on Wall Street
66 Pierre's head
67 One Ford
68 Square in the shower
69 Expressions of delight
70 Peruses
71 Solidifies

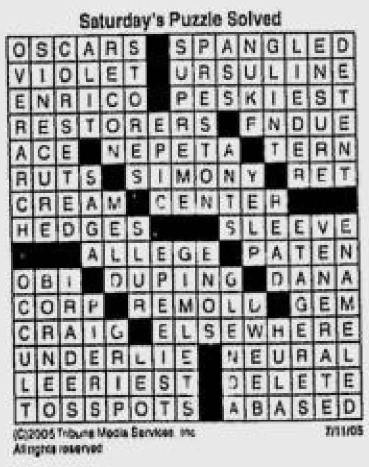


By Norma Steinberg
San Francisco, CA

7/11/05

DOWN
1 Diamond corners
2 __ nous (just between us)
3 Slammin' Sammy
4 Vacillates
5 Fund-raising interest grp.
6 Actress Sheedy
7 Command to Fido
8 Puppeteer Lewis
9 Works for
10 Trapper's traps
11 "Risky Business" star
12 Tiny bit of physics
13 Husky sound
18 M. Descartes
24 Hell's CEO?
26 Foam
28 Fishing poles
30 Served perfectly
31 Blaze a trail
32 Tableland
33 Sign
34 Rabbit's malocclusions
36 Undivided
37 Smile broadly
38 John Jacob or Mary
41 Litigates
45 Goes back to a former condition
47 Defeats
49 Ms. McEntire
51 Cavalry weapon
52 Give the slip to
53 Spicy chip dip
55 Funny Jack of Hollywood
56 Prepared to pray
57 Sen. Kefauver
58 Dorothy's dog
59 Ersatz butter
61 Musher's ride
65 Small meas.

Saturday's Puzzle Solved



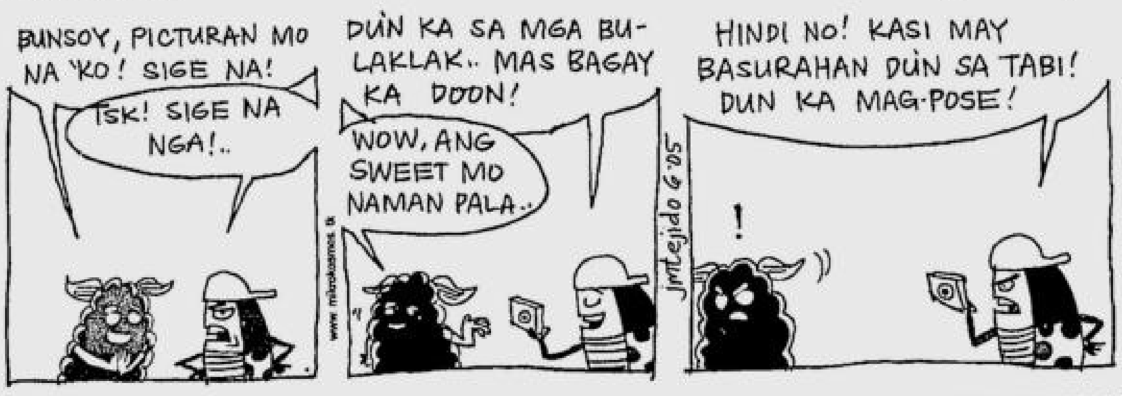
O	S	C	A	R	S	■	S	P	A	N	G	L	E	D
V	I	O	L	E	T	■	U	R	S	U	L	I	N	E
E	N	R	I	C	O	■	P	E	S	K	I	E	S	T
R	E	S	T	O	R	E	R	S	■	E	N	D	U	E
A	C	E	■	N	E	P	E	T	A	■	T	E	R	N
R	U	T	S	■	S	I	M	O	N	Y	■	R	E	T
C	R	E	A	M	■	C	E	N	T	E	R	■	■	■
H	E	D	G	E	S	■	■	■	S	L	E	E	V	E
■	■	■	A	L	L	E	G	E	■	P	A	T	E	N
O	B	I	■	D	U	P	I	N	G	■	D	A	N	A
C	O	R	P	■	R	E	M	O	L	D	■	G	E	M
C	R	A	I	G	■	E	L	S	E	W	H	E	R	E
U	N	D	E	R	L	I	E	■	N	E	U	R	A	L
L	E	E	R	I	E	S	T	■	D	E	L	E	T	E
T	O	S	S	P	O	T	S	■	A	B	A	S	E	D

(C)2005 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved

7/11/05

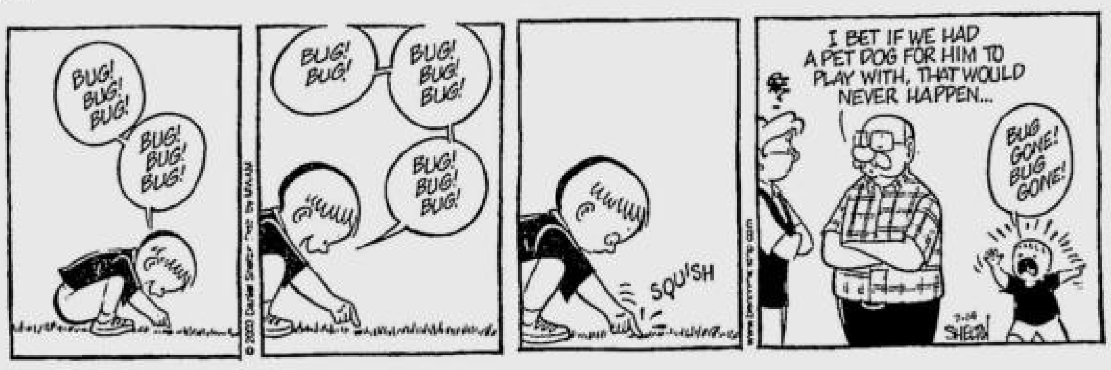
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


BUNSOY, PICTURAN MO NA 'KO! SIGE NA!
TSK! SIGE NA NGA!..
DÙN KA SA MGA BULAKLAK.. MAS BAGAY KA DOON!
WOW, ANG SWEET MO NAMAN PALA..
jmtejido 6'05
!
HINDI NO! KASI MAY BASURAHAN DÙN SA TABI! DUN KA MAG-POSE!

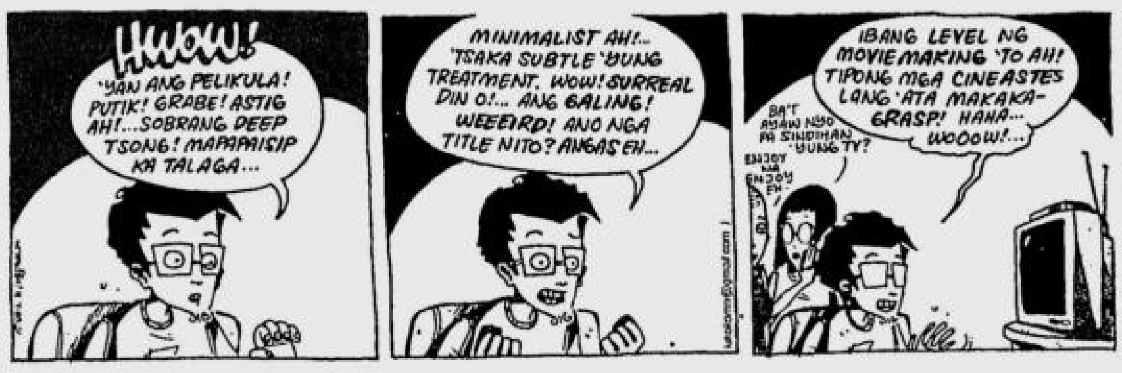
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


BUG! BUG! BUG!
BUG! BUG! BUG!
BUG! BUG!
BUG! BUG! BUG!
BUG! BUG! BUG!
SQUISH
I BET IF WE HAD A PET DOG FOR HIM TO PLAY WITH, THAT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN...
BUG GONE! BUG GONE!
SHELTON

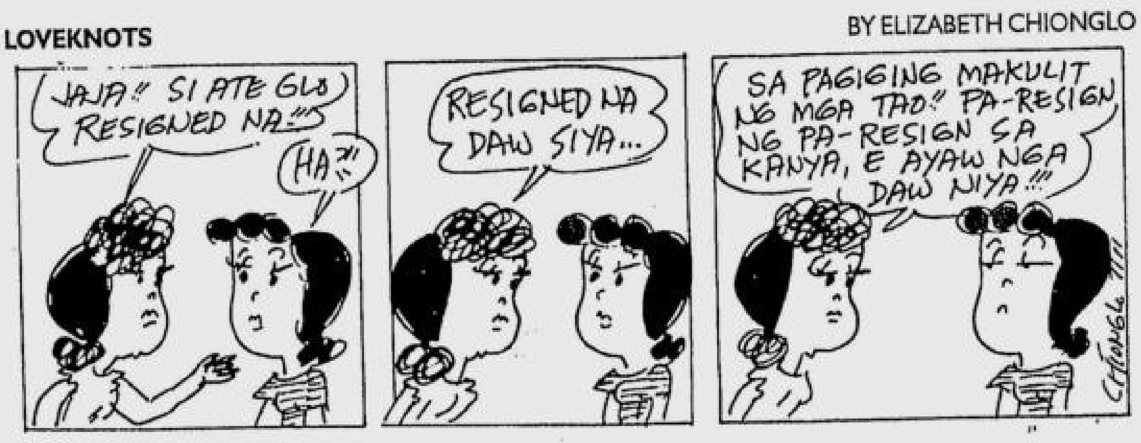
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


HWOW!
'YAN ANG PELIKULA! PUTIK! GRABE! ASTIG AH!... SOBRANG DEEP TSONG! MAPAPAISIP KA TALAGA...
MINIMALIST AH!... 'TSAKA SUBTLE 'YUNG TREATMENT. WOW! SURREAL DIN O!... ANG GALING! WEEEIRD! ANO NGA TITLE NITO? ANGAS EH...
IBANG LEVEL NG MOVIEMAKING 'TO AH! TIPONG MGA CINEASTES LANG 'ATA MAKAKA-GRASP! HAHA... WOOOW!...
BA'T AYAW N'YO PA SINDIHAN 'YUNG TV?
ENJOY NA ENJOY EH.

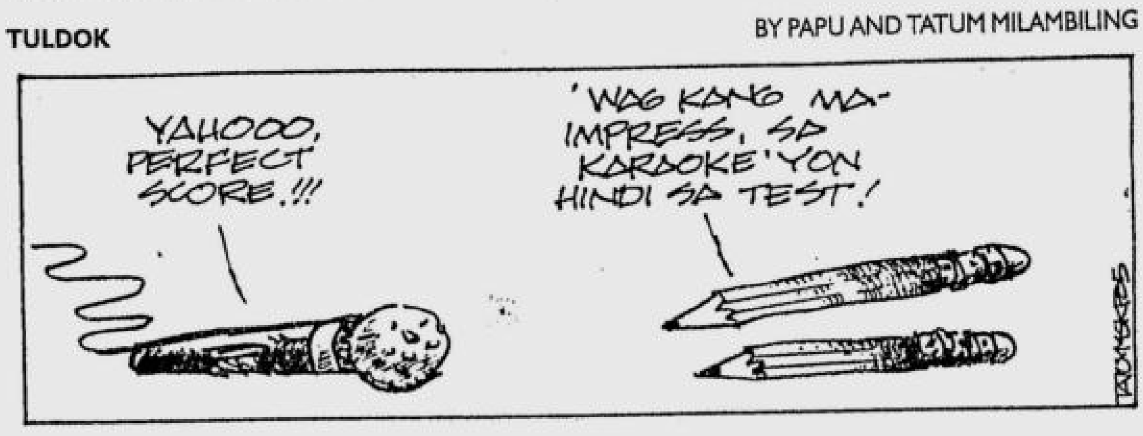
LOVEKNOTS

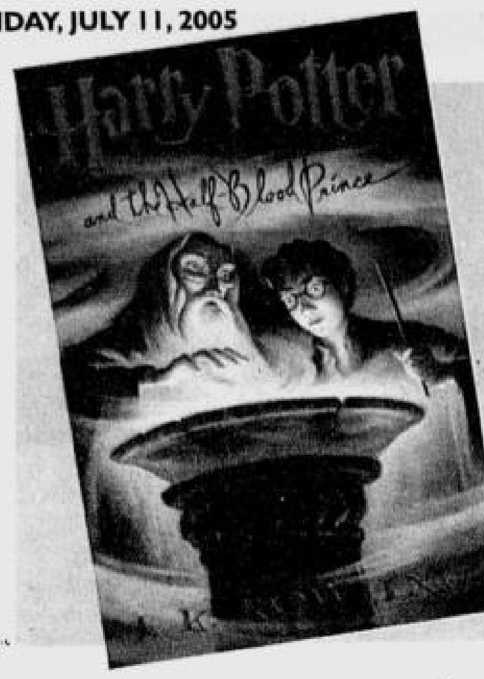
BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


JAJA!! SI ATE GLO RESIGNED NA!!!
HA?!!
RESIGNED NA DAW SIYA...
SA PAGIGING MAKULIT NG MGA TAO!! PA-RESIGN NG PA-RESIGN SA KANYA, E AYAW NGA DAW NIYA!!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


YAHOOO, PERFECT SCORE.!!!
'WAG KANG MA-IMPRESS, SA KARAOKE 'YON HINDI SA TEST!



"Harry Potter 6" book launch

MARK your calendars. On July 16, PowerBooks opens its doors at exactly 7:01 in the morning to launch the highly anticipated sixth installment of J.K. Rowling's exciting "Harry Potter" series—"Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince."

Head to "Diagon Alley" at 10 a.m. at the Glorietta Activity Center and enjoy all the prizes, surprises and freebies that await you. The day-long program features arts and crafts activities such as Make-Your-Own Wizard's Hat and Wand and Decorate the Golden Snitch.

Come dressed as any of the "Harry Potter" book characters, human or otherwise, and get the chance to win the Costume Contest plum. Check out the many shops in "Diagon Alley" and purchase all the items you need for your back-to-Hogwarts school list.

The first 500 customers to present a PowerBooks receipt of "Harry Potter 6" purchase at a designated booth will be entitled to a set of food and product coupons plus loads of other freebies. You also get the opportunity of dressing up as a Hogwarts student or teacher and having an instant photo taken in front of special Harry Potter backdrops.

You also join the Harry Potter Trivia Contest and the "Create Your Own Harry Potter Scene" contest. Call PowerBooks for contest rules.

The main program on July 16 begins at 3:30 p.m. and includes a magic show, a host of games, contests and raffles and the awarding of the winners for the different competitions.

Call PowerBooks at Greenbelt 4 (7576428/29), Megamall (6352898-99), Alabang (8505662-63) and Glorietta (7527075).

Giono tale gets colorful update

By Ralph Semino Galán
Contributor

CHILDREN'S literature, the corpus of written works with accompanying pictures created to entertain or instruct young people, is a thriving genre in Philippine letters. To cash in on this lucrative market, some publishing houses, like Adarna and Lampara, have specialized in the production of children's books in the form of fairy tales, fables, folktales, myths and legends.

"Elias and His Trees" (Mga Puno ni Elias) [Manila, UST Publishing House, 45 pages] veers away from pure fantasy and focuses on the more pressing problem of ecological degradation. Inspired by Jean Giono's short story "The Man Who Planted Trees," Augie Rivera's bilingual adaptation chronicles the numerous encounters of the unnamed narrator and Elias Dakila, the elderly shepherd who takes it upon himself to help Mother Nature by sowing a hundred *narra* seeds daily, like a Johnny Appleseed figure.

The story begins with the narrator, a Filipino expatriate living in Hawaii, yearning to see his motherland, fed as he was as a toddler by his parents with wonderful tales of Tierra Verde. Twenty years after his parents have left their hometown, he is given the opportunity to discover the delightful landscape of his dreams.

But the Tierra Verde of his childhood's imagination is now a barren and deserted town. Gone are the "verdant mountains, lush forests, pristine streams, towering trees, and crystal rivers." What he finds instead are dried up streams and rivers, and treeless mountains.

Fortunately, he becomes acquainted with Elias, a hospitable but close-lipped old shepherd, who invites him to dinner and to stay for the night, since the next town is one and a half days away. He prods the old man to tell him the history of the town by asking him probing questions about Tierra Verde.

Environmental disaster

Because of his insistence, the shepherd relents and narrates the dismal account of the town's devastation, which is a virtual catalogue of natural and manmade catastrophes: a long drought, the cutting of trees for *kaingin* farming, a raging storm, flashfloods.

He finds out the following day that Elias has been planting a hundred *narra* trees daily for the last three years to help the land recover from ecological devastation. The next day the narrator returns to Hawaii, where he finds himself when World War II breaks out.

After the war, the narrator, in need of a much needed respite, returns to Tierra Verde and beholds the *narra* trees that Elias has planted are now taller than both of them. He also notes that Elias has planted during the war *kamagong*, acacia, *molave*, *almaciga* and other trees, which are now as high as their shoulders.

From then on, the narrator makes an annual "pilgrimage" to Tierra Verde to visit Elias and his trees. He observes that due to the inconspicuous effort of one man the environment is slowly recuperating from the manmade and natural disasters that has befallen it, a life lesson that children must learn, that they too with their small unheralded contributions can make a big difference in the crusade to save Mother Earth.

The narrator's pilgrimage to Tierra Verde is broken only once, during the Martial Law. But 15 years later, after the Edsa Revolution, he returns to Tierra Verde and discovers that the land is fully reforested and the people, especially the children, are as happy as the proverbial lark.

Shepherd motif

Interestingly enough, Elias is depicted in the book as a shepherd, although he is more of a goatherd because he herds goats not sheep. The use of the shepherd motif, though, seems to suggest that Elias is an environmental savior of sorts, a shepherd of trees, like the Ents of Mirkwood in J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Lord of the Rings." This biblical allusion as steward of the Earth is further enhanced by his name: Elias Dakila, Elijah the Great.

The visual component of the book is just as excellent as the text. The original paintings by multi-awarded young artist Romeo Forbes enhance the storytelling with their compelling ocular suggestiveness.

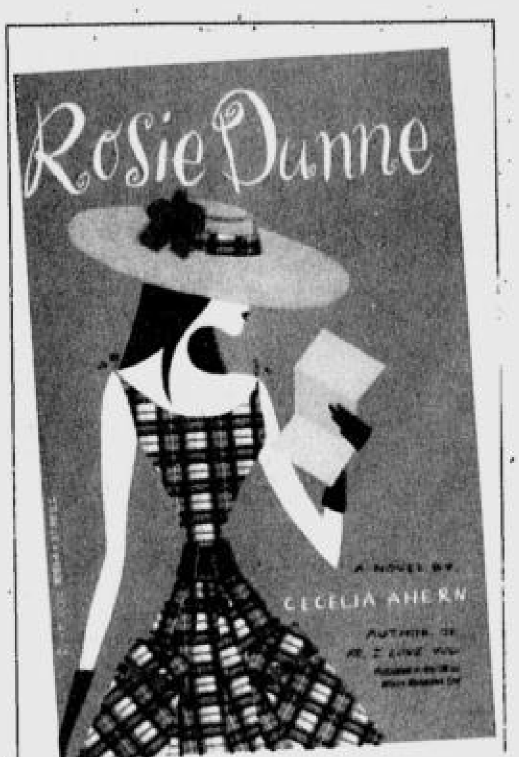
For Forbes's pictorial world is elemental and childlike, replete with bone-white stars, scintillating suns and crescent moons, quite reminiscent of Joan Miro's paintings. But his human forms are less abstract and more three-dimensional in configuration than the Catalan master's, which makes them more appealing to children and those adults who are young at heart.

Forbes is also a supreme colorist like the Fauvists, manipulating shades and shapes to enhance the emotional impact of his illustrations. Based on its intensity, a pigment like red in his paintings can either connote ecological disaster or environmental renewal. Furthermore, his rotund humanoids can either look charming or sinister depending on the color of the background.

The only character who appears consistently altruistic and unperturbed, despite the various environmental and socio-political upheavals he has witnessed, is the figure of Elias and his signature striped headband in multifarious shades of green, the color of nature, the color of hope.

Parents should buy a copy of this well-written, excellently-illustrated book to educate their children about the importance of doing their fair share to assist the environment in its healing, for in the future they will end up as the stewards of the Earth, like Elias during his fictional lifetime.

"Elias and His Trees" is available at National Bookstore. Call UST Publishing House, 7313522 or 4061611 loc. 8252 or 8278. Also visit www.canvas.ph.



Book club readings

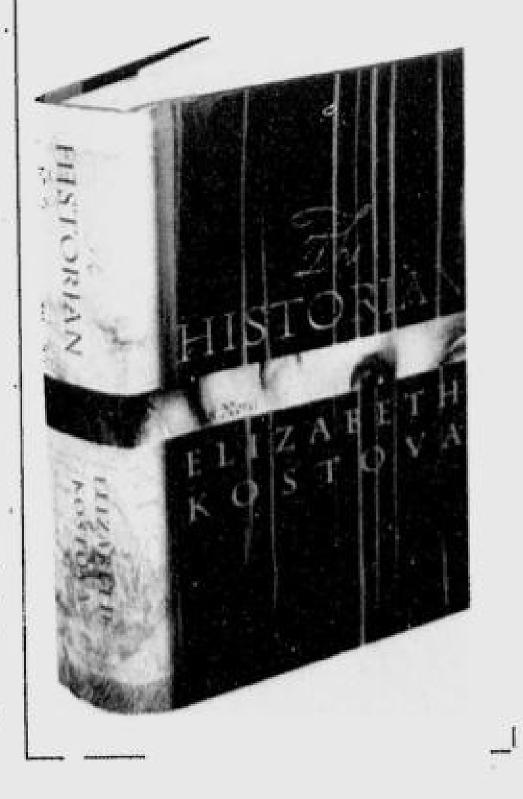
THE POWERBOOK Club features two absorbing and thought-provoking novels this July: Cecelia Ahern's enchanting and heartwarming book, "Rosie Dunne," and Elizabeth Kostova's spine-tingling debut novel, "The Historian."

"The Historian" is a nail-biting thriller that follows a young woman's quest of finding the truth about the source of one the darkest powers humanity has ever known, Vlad the Impaler, the medieval ruler whose barbarous reign formed the basis of the legend of Dracula. The adventure blends fantasy, tantalizing history and the present, as the young woman unravels the truth about her mysterious family legacy that leads her to a confrontation with the very definition of evil.

"Rosie Dunne" is a light and amusing story about Alex and Rosie, best friends who grow up together and stay close despite cross-continental moves, marriages and family dramas. Written through a series of notes, letters, IMs, e-mails and text messages between the two protagonists and their various friends and family members, the novel keeps hopeless romantics delighted as it shows how Alex and Rosie's lives evolve and how the potential romance between them, which is always under the surface, never seems to find the right time or place to become a reality.

Share your thoughts on these exciting reads over a cup of warm coffee from The Java Man, as the PowerBook Club discusses "Rosie Dunne" on July 26 (Tuesday), 6:30 p.m. at PowerBooks Greenbelt, and "The Historian" on July 27 (Wednesday), 6:30 p.m. at PowerBooks Megamall. Powercard Plus holders get a special treat: the first eight non-Book Club members to sign up get the featured book for free.

Visit PowerBooks at Greenbelt 4 (7576428/29), Megamall (6352898-99), Alabang (8505662-63) and Glorietta (7527075).



Join electronic book quiz

WHO is the author of the award-winning novel "Dekada '70": Liwayway Arceo, Lualhati Bautista or Edgardo Reyes?

Get to know more Philippine authors and their books in the Aklat Buklat Mulat (ABM) txt quiz.

ABM txt quiz is a raffle to promote books, authors and the value of book reading in celebration of the ninth Philippine Book Development Month.

Everyday, from June 28 to July 28, the Philippine Daily Inquirer will publish a multiple-choice quiz on Philippine books and authors.

Gintong Aklat-winning books will be given away everyday to winners. On Sundays, an Apple iPod shuffle will be given to winners aside from the award-winning books.

There will be a one-time registration. The participants pre-register as follows: Text NBDB<space> REG<space>Name <space>Address<space> Age<space>Sex Ex. NBDB REG MeannPunsalan 29ChicoSt.TCEVAntipolo 18 Female and send to 283 for Smart/Talk 'N Text/Addict Mobile subscribers or send to 2378 for Globe/Touch Mobile subscribers.

To join the electronic raffle, the registered participants answer as follows: Text NBDB<space>answer Ex. NBDB B and send to 283 for Smart/Talk 'N Text/Addict Mobile or 2378 for Globe/Touch Mobile.

ABM txt quiz is organized by the National Book Development Board in cooperation with the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Mobile Concepts Asia, Inc. Adarna House, Anvil Publishing, De La Salle University press and the University of Santo Tomas publishing house.

Visit the National Book Development Board website at www.nbdb.gov.ph.

Moving eco-fable

From page E1

sugarcane fields of Hawaii in 1920. Their son was weaned on stories of the town they left behind, Tierra Verde. As a soldier at Pearl Harbor in his adulthood, he decides to visit the town. He finds a barren land, a far cry from the tropical paradise his parents were nostalgic about.

But there, he meets the laconic Elias who acts as his guide. The kind old man tells him how a drought and a storm and the greed of the citizens left the town desolate. Without saying any more, Elias brings out a bag of one hundred *narra* seeds to plant on the mountain ridge, "because the mountain needed help and care."

During the narrator's visit, Elias has already planted 100,000 seeds, not discouraged that not all would grow into trees. He goes on planting *kamagong*, acacia, *molave*, and *almaciga* seeds until he dies at 98.

Elias Dakila (Elias the Great), as he is fittingly named, is an inspiring and admirable figure, a responsible citizen who does what he can about the environment outside of the bureaucracy and politics, rather than merely rave and rant. What a difference an Elias makes, the narrator discovers.

Good story

Rivera is subtle and offers a tale that is a fine example of the cardinal rule for writers: showing, rather than telling. He describes the reborn Tierra Verde in scenes very easy to picture: "The harsh wind that used to greet me was now a gentle and sweet breeze.... Not far away, a kapok fruit burst and let loose its white, feathery seeds to the wind. A smile escaped my lips as a rain of white cottony kapok filled the air and giggling children ran around trying to catch it in their hands."

If that impresses, try reading aloud the Filipino version which should even be more powerful. The cottony kapok is said to be, "*tinatangay ng hangin*," which connotes being gently, teasingly pulled by the wind, something lost in the English translation.

Happily enough, the Filipino text enjoys the same "billing" as the English. The layout does not jar as it does in most bilingual editions. It also helps that the paintings of Romeo Forbes, reproduced in full color, are stunning.

Maybe it is time that the publication data page of children's books mention the medium that the artists use—the way they are so helpfully provided in children's trade books in developed countries.

The details of the story ring familiar, as classic storylines go, but the title and author are less so. According to Rivera, Giono's story was made into an animated short film in the '80s that won an Oscar.

In the Acknowledgments page, Gigo Alampay, executive director of Canvas, an NGO promoting awareness and appreciation for Philippine art, culture and environment, says he first saw the story as an animated film and never forgot about it. In 1999, he e-mailed the Chelsea Green Publishing Co, the US publisher of the book version about the possibility of a Philippine adaptation. To his surprise, he was told that no person or company owns the copyright to the story. "Giono believed," the reply went, "that he had given the rights to the world..."

Thanks to Canvas' persistence, we have a Philippine eco-fable, a book that looks and feels like a real book, one that can stand proudly on our bookshelves.

The launch of the book and its audio CD with bilingual narration, and the exhibit of Forbes' paintings for the book are welcome features of this year's French Spring cultural festival.

The book shows the entry of new entities in children's publishing—the University of Santo Tomas Publishing House and Canvas.

The author is a member of the Philippine Board on Books for Young People. Call 3723548 or email adarnahouse@adarna.com.ph.

Email her at nenisrc@gmail.com

Musical mystery tour

From page E4

the property of the beholder," writes Neil Strauss in his introduction. "'Lit Riffs' then are the synesthetic experience that occurs when the sense cross, when sound becomes text."

From the singsong fable that is Toure's interpretation of Marley's "I Shot The Sherrif" to LaVelle's eerie vision of the White Stripes' "Aluminum," from the street rhythm that is both Tinti's and Davis's evocation of "Milestones," the way Eddie Vedder's growl is echoed in Tucker's "Why Go," this book has something for mostly everybody-as long as you are adventurous as listener and reader. It's jazz and country after all, weird and new all at once, the way a deposed dictator's stroll through a New York street rose from, of all things, Duran Duran's "Rio," and yet it's also the ruminations of an old drug dealer born from James Brown's "King Heroin."

Breathtaking

It's in the breathtaking lushness of the best piece in the collection, novelist Jonathan Lethem's "The National Anthem," based on a Yo La Tengo song: "You wonder whether you can stand never to know the touch of a fresh hand, the trembling flavor of a new kiss, and I'm desperately trying to keep from telling you the little I know: it's sweeter than anything, for a moment. For just a moment, there's nothing else. As to all you're weighing it against, your wife and child, I know less than nothing. The wisdom of your ambivalence, the whimsical, faux-jaded wit you share in your letter, as you contemplate the beauties around you, all that poise will be shattered if you act-I can promise you that much. You're more innocent than you know."

And when you listen to the songs that inspired these stories along as the stories themselves, well, it's just sublime, one mixtape lifting the other to creative nirvana. It's also a most sonic lure, to imagine your own stories behind our favorite songs. What secret life lies behind the lush exoticism of Seal's "Kiss From The Rose," or what sad, young epiphany is waiting to be found in Coldplay's irresistible "Clocks?" What signals do you pick up from a Wagner crescendo, 50-Cent track, a Karen Carpenter ode, or-to go even further-the Eraserheads' "Wishing Well?" It is the easy and the hard, the quick and the quicker.

Like the songs it holds to its chest, "Lit Riffs" is different things to different people, but it's the chance to experience all this music, this dreaming, this pain and hope this way or that which makes this book special. Press play indeed, and then read, dream and on.

Available at Fully Booked.

Musical mystery tour

Song and short story come together in 'Lit Riffs,' an intriguing ride through the possibilities of music

"Lit Riffs"
Edited by Matthew Miele
MTV Books/PocketBooks
2004, 420 pages

By Ruel S. De Vera

FIRST, it was the cassette tape, then the CD and now the iPod, which may change the way we absorb our music, the way we experience lyric and arrangement, even the way we arrange our music. Yet somehow, amid the restless evolving of what we listen to and how, it is possible to find yet another way of going about it.

Good songs always inspire stories, in our heads, in our ears buzzing like something alive. If the song's narrative is straightforward, then the imagining is easier, but if the song's mysterious, then the dreaming is more mysterious with more possibility.

"Lit Riffs" is a concrete product of that process, that crossing over. This is not the first book to combine the purveyors of the written word and songs. Nick Hornby wrote about why he loved the selections included in 2003's "Songbook," his personal mixtape. But "Lit Riffs" is a little different.

Edited by Matthew Miele, "Lit Riffs" is a collection of short stories inspired in turn by specific songs, with the pieces of short fiction as diverse and powerful as the pieces of music that inspired them. Leading of, for example, is "Maggie May," a story by the late, venerable rock writer Lester Bangs based on the Rod Stewart song of the same title, a mournful yet enthralling tale of a woman and her faded affection.

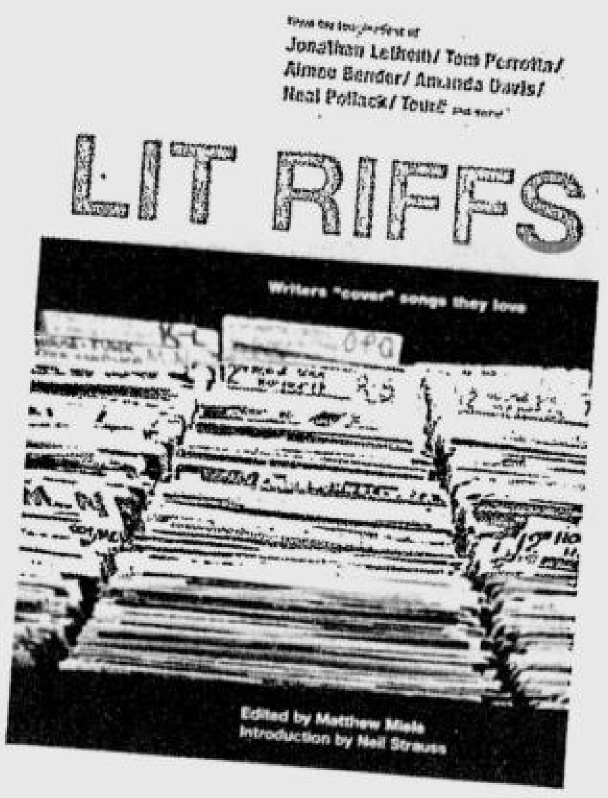
Eclectic, fascinating

The roster of contributors is eclectic and fascinating, mostly novelists, but also poets, journalists and even documentarians. Aside from Bangs, there's Jonathan Lethem, Amanda Davis, JT LeRoy, Tom Perotta, Tanker Dane, Lisa Tucker, Aimee Bender, Anthony DeCurtis, Hannah Tinti, Neal Pollack, Toure, Victor LaValle, Heidi Julavits, Arthur Bradford, Jennifer Belle, Ernesto Quinonez, Darin Strauss, Judy Budnitz, David Ebershoff, Elissa Shappell, Zev Borow, Nelson George and Julliana Baggott.

And how about the singers and musicians who inspired "Lit Riffs"? It's Stewart, Daniel Johnston via Yo La Tengo, the Cowboy Junkies, the Foo Fighters, Tom Petty, Leonard Cohen chanelled by Jeff Buckley, Pearl Jam, Jane Siberry, the Beatles, Miles Davis, Merle Haggard, Bob Marley, the White Stripes, Velvet Underground through Cat Power, AC/DC, Paul Simon, Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five, the Black Crowes, Tom Waits, Herman Strauss and Richard Strauss, John Cale, Duran Duran, James Brown and Bruce Springsteen. It's hip and reverent, unusual and standard all at once.

"There are some songwriters who don't like to discuss the meanings of their lyrics or the intention behind them. They don't want to interfere with the interpretations their fans have imposed on the music, they say. When I heard this answer in interviews, I used to think that it was a cop-out. But the beauty of music is that it is, as Marshall McLuhan would say, a hot medium. It occupies hearing, leaving the imagination free to wander (unlike films or the Internet). The closest equivalent is literature, which occupies only the eyes. The intent may belong to the artist but the significance is

MUSICAL/ E3



Jonathan Lethem/ Tom Perrotta/
Aimee Bender/ Amanda Davis/
Neal Pollack/ Touré and more

LIT RIFFS

Writers "cover" songs they love

Edited by Matthew Miele
Introduction by Neil Strauss

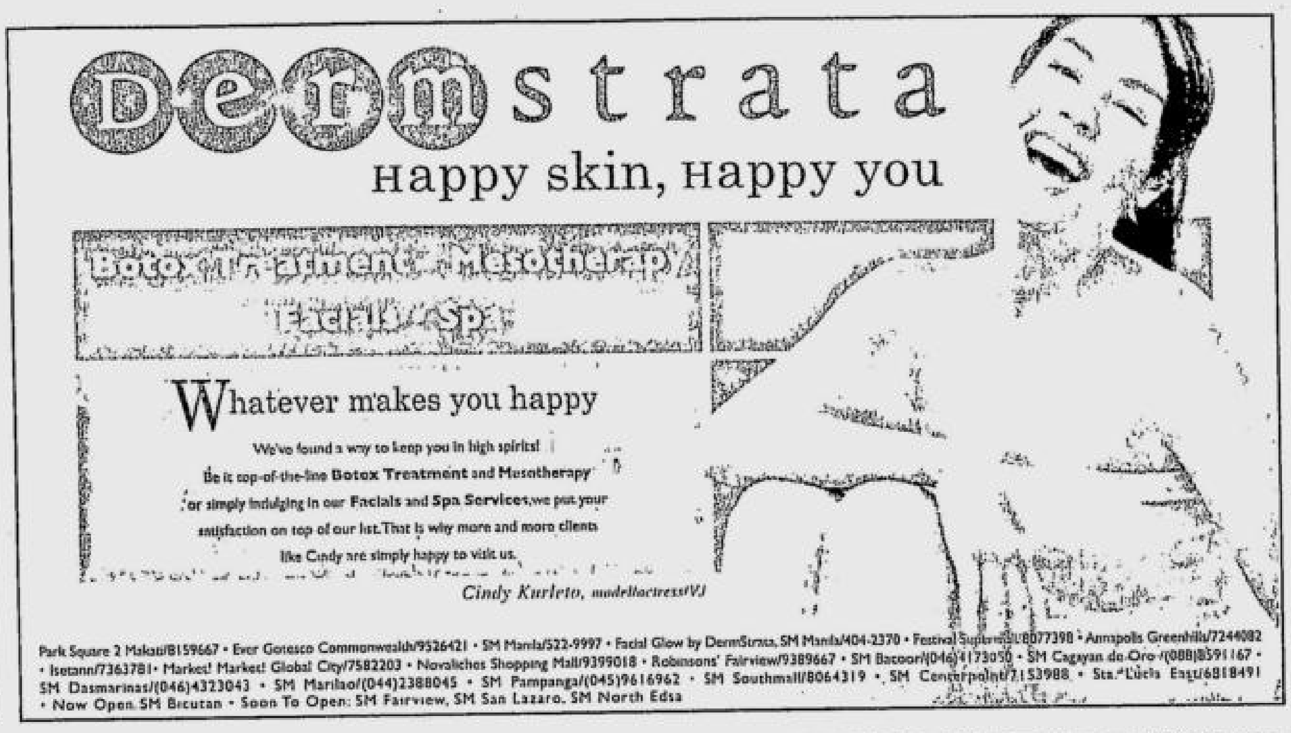
PSBank
Home
RATE PROTECT

Bring down your
home loan payments with
PSBank's ROCK-BOTTOM RATES!

Fixing Period	Interest Rate*	Monthly Amortization**
1 - year	10.25 %	P 9,817
2 - year	11.00 %	P10,322
3 - year	11.25 %	P10,493
5 - year	11.50 %	P10,665

* Rates apply only for new loan releases where purpose is acquisition, construction or refinancing. Rates are subject to change without prior notice.
** For every loan amount of P1,000,000 with a 20-year loan term.

Apply at any PSBank branch nationwide.
For more information, call 888-5194, 885-8212,
885-8208 loc. 8404, 8407 or 8409,
or text PSBANK HOME AD
<your name> <landline nos.> <e-mail address>
to 2327 for Globe users & 0917-8902327 for non-Globe users.



Whatever makes you happy

We've found a way to keep you in high spirits!
Be it top-of-the-line **Botox Treatment** and **Mesotherapy**
or simply indulging in our **Facials** and **Spa Services**, we put your
satisfaction on top of our list. That is why more and more clients
like Cindy are simply happy to visit us.

Cindy Kurleto, model/actress/VJ

Park Square 2 Makati/8159667 • Ever Gotesco Commonwealth/9526421 • SM Manila/522-9997 • Facial Glow by DermStrata, SM Manila/404-2370 • Festival Supermall/8077398 • Annapolis Greenhills/7244082 • Isetann/7363781 • Market! Market! Global City/7582203 • Novaliches Shopping Mall/9399018 • Robinsons' Fairview/9389667 • SM Bacoor/(046)4173050 • SM Cagayan de Oro/(088)8591167 • SM Dasmarinas/(046)4323043 • SM Marilao/(044)2388045 • SM Pampanga/(045)9616962 • SM Southmall/8064319 • SM Centerpoint/7153988 • Sta. Lucia East/6818491 • Now Open: SM Bicutan • Soon To Open: SM Fairview, SM San Lazaro, SM North Edsa

She knows a secret.
Oral-B
The Brand More Dentists Use Themselves
*Based on the latest nationwide AC Nielsen

That 81% of dentists use Oral-B Toothbrush. That's why she also uses Oral-B to keep her teeth and gums healthy for life. Now that you know Christine Bersola-Babao's secret, it's about time you discover Oral-B for yourself.